

TGOA/MGCA NATIONAL NEWSLETTER



Volume 23

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Number 2



The 2011 President's Message

Dear Members:

I am busy studying seed catalogs, thinking about snow in the driveway, and finishing a newsletter article when the phone rings. It is Sheryl Bacon at headquarters. "Hello Hugh - time for the President's letter." So here goes!

The Website Committee (Frank Mitch) is in the process of producing a new webpage called **The Youth Gardening Resources**.

This is the result of some good work that Cheri Kessen has done with the Youth Gardening Committee. Check it out!

Other committees hard at work to improve the TGOA/MGCA organization are:

The Newsletter Committee

(Richard Robledo) is currently reviewing the various club and regional newsletters for winners to be announced at the annual convention.

The Awards Committee

(Colette McNally) is accepting applications for the various awards to honor those who give of their time and energy to gardening and support to club activities.

The Photography

Committee (Judy Schuck) will have their hands full of entries soon. This committee's work is always a top-flight event at the national convention.

The Scholarship

Committee (Tom Wilten) should have more work to do this year as college expenses continue to rise.

The Endowment and

Investment Committee (Robert McGowan) looks after our investments during the year to ensure our future success.

And finally, thanks to all the committees for the robust work that you do to strengthen the TGOA/MGCA.

On January 15th of this year, I had the honor to present a special plaque from the TGOA/MGCA to Mr. Harold Milligan (member of the Men's Garden Club of Youngstown) for being the oldest member of our organization. He was 100 years young. He is still active in his church, attends garden club functions, mows his grass, plants a garden, and raises some beautiful flats of giant pansies and wave petunias. Happy Birthday Harold!!!

All "yellow brick roads" this year head in the direction of Overland Park in Kansas. The girls in Kansas (Barnekoff and Sherra Schuck) have spent considerable time putting together this year's convention to be held June 16 - 18. Please register early to help in the planning. Thanks GOA Overland Park!

I would like to initiate a new feature into the TGOA/MGCA newsletter to promote our clubs. Tell the rest of us what you do during the

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GARDENERS GONE TO REST



*Alex Ioannides,
Centennial, CO
Bill Town,*

Schaghticoke, NY

Frank Papke

Rockford, IL

Richard Stankus,

Schenectady, NY

Theodore Bale,

Canfield, OH

Jerre Hersh

Leawood, KS

Chester Hodnicki

Solvay, NY

Albert Miller

Albany, NY

Maurice Hombs

Columbia, MO

.+++++



FROM YOUR EDITOR

We are very sorry to lose the Men's Garden Club of Erie County, Ohio and the Rochelle GOA, IL. We wish them well in the future.

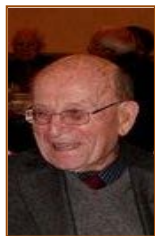
What can we all do to help stop the disaffiliations?

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TGOA/ MGCA

congratulates Mr. Harold Milligan on his 100th birthday. He

is a long-time member of the MGC of Youngstown, OH and a life member of



TGOA/MGCA.

Genes and parental influence go a long way in paving the road a person's life will take. Harold Milligan was not only blessed with the best of both, but made the most of those gifts.

Born in Struthers 100 years ago, Harold has lived there most of his life. He and his sweet and charming wife, Peg, will celebrate their 75th anniversary in September. They have one son and one daughter and one daughter who have passed away.

The family business, Milligan's Dairy, bought raw milk from Amish farmers and was the first to use pasteurization in Mahoning County (1914). During the Depression, Harold's father refused to cut deliveries to families unable to pay.

During WWII, gas and rubber rationing required deliveries be made with horse-drawn wagons. He had one horse that could not only plow his garden in a third of the time it took a rotor-tiller, but it did a better job.

Harold served on the Struthers Board of Education from 1944 to 1952. At the request of civic and business leaders of the financially strapped city, he ran and was elected mayor, serving

from 1952 until 1963. He credits the willingness of Struthers citizens to work together for making his terms successful.

He also served as President of the Ohio Municipal League, a body representing the interests of the state's cities and villages, in 1961.

In 1963, he became Legislative Customer Liaison with the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company, retiring in 1975.

Entering Harold's cellar provides a lesson in plant propagation using limited space. Using four-foot fluorescent grow lights, he starts his hundreds of vegetables and annual flowers from seed. His specialty is large-blossom flower varieties such as majestic giant pansies and wave petunias.

Dr. George I. "Doc" Dixon, former MGCY President (1939), brought him into the club. They started a tradition of growing and planting flowers at the Struthers Presbyterian Church. Harold will donate approximately 1000 plants this year. A former church elder, he now serves as an assistant Bible study teacher.

He is a MGCY 1977 past-president and was awarded the Bronze Medal

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To Gardeners of America
Members and Friends:

RE: 2011 TGOA/MGCA National Convention

The Overland Park/Gardeners of America is proud to be hosting the 2011 annual convention of The Gardeners of America/Men's Garden Clubs of America. Our theme for the convention is "A Little Bit of Heaven in 2011". Join us on June 16, 17 & 18, 2011 while we learn about the flora & fauna native to Kansas and Missouri.

The convention will be held at The Doubletree Hotel located at 10100 College Blvd., Overland Park, KS 66210. Their phone number is (913)451-6100 and their web site is – www.Doubletree.Hilton.com/OverlandPark. We have been offered a great room rate of \$99 per night for a single/double. *This convention rate will be extended for three days before and three days after to any guests wishing to arrive early or stay on after the convention.* You need to let them know when you register. An early bird registration fee of \$270.00 per person up thru April 13 and a registration fee of \$300.00 from April 14 thru May 15, 2011 will cover all meals, seminars and tours from Thursday morning thru Saturday night.

One of our visits will be to The Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Gardens which "was founded to keep the city at the forefront of environmental and ecological issues".

Another of Kansas City's pride is our football/baseball stadiums previously owned by Ewing and Muriel Kauffman. Their legacy also includes a foundation devoted to entrepreneurship. We will visit the beautiful gardens created as a memorial honoring this couple that gave so much to the Kansas City area.

We have scheduled several interesting speakers and experts for our seminars. A few that will enlighten and entertain us are Eric Nelson, Larry Ryan and Charles Gusewelle. Eric Nelson, owner of three local garden centers, will share his knowledge of Begonia's. Larry Ryan, owner of Ryan Lawn and Tree, will discuss Integrated Plant Management. Our Sat. evening speaker will be Kansas City's own Charles Gusewelle, the author of six books and his titles at the Kansas City Star have included reporter, editorial writer, associate editor and a columnist, which was distributed nationally.

If you will be flying into KCI or the Downtown airport, we will be happy to make arrangements to pick you up on your arrival Wednesday or Thursday and return you to the airport

Saturday evening or Sunday. Please be sure to fill out your request on the registration form.

For those attendees who are arriving early or staying on after the convention, there is an endless variety of things to do and see in the Overland Park/Greater Kansas City area. You might enjoy the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, American Royal Museum, or the Arabia Steamboat Museum. Maybe the Deanna Rose Children's Farmstead, Lakeside Nature Center or Powell Gardens is more to your liking. And there is always the Hallmark Visitors Center at Crown Center, Kansas City Zoo, Louisburg Cider Mill or Science City at Union Station just to begin the list of fabulous places to visit in Kansas City.

We can't wait to see all of your wonderful faces in our home town. Please let us know as soon as possible if you plan to attend.

For more information; contact Sherra Schuck at – email: sschuck4@kc.rr.com; phone (913) 424-3029 or Honey Barnekoff at – email: Barnekoff@everestke.net; phone (913) 722-5562.

For more convention information, check out our website at www.op-goa.org Thank you.

*Sherra Schuck
Overland Park/GOA
Co-chairman, 2011
Convention Committee*



TGOA / MGCA NATIONAL CONVENTION
 June 16, 17 & 18, 2011
A Little Bit of Heaven in 2011



CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM – PLEASE USE SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH PERSON

CURRENT NATIONAL / REGIONAL / CLUB TITLE(S)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> National President | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Treasurer | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Judge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Vice President | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Past President | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Committee Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Member At Large |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Treasurer | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Editor | <input type="checkbox"/> Committee Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Liaison | <input type="checkbox"/> Club President | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Member / Guest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> TGOA/MGCA Staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Historian | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Vice President | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regional President | <input type="checkbox"/> Host | Member Since: _____? | |

CONVENTION Fee: \$270.00 PER Adult
\$200.00 Children under 12
After Deadline: April 13, 2011: \$300.00
Children \$230.00
Cancellation Fee after May 15th - \$50.00

Name (Please Print): _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State _____
 Zip _____ Phone: () _____
 E-Mail: _____
 Name on Badge: _____
 TGOA/MGCA Club: _____
 Member at Large: _____
 Handicap or other Special Needs: _____

Please let us know your travel information:

Arriving Airline: _____
 Date: __Time: __Flight No: _____
 Departing Airline: _____
 Date: _____Time: _____Flight No.: _____
 Driving: _____

MEALS

- Vegetarian Meals preferred.
 Medically Required Diet: _____

Hotel Information

The Doubletree Hotel
 10100 College Blvd.
 Overland Park, KS 66210
 (913)451-6100
www.Doubletree.Hilton.com/OverlandPark
 Room rate - \$99.00 single/double plus tax
 Pricing good for 3 days before/after convention

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Overland Park GOA

MAIL REGISTRATION AND CHECK TO:

Tracy Williams
 14829 S. Summertree Lane
 Olathe, KS 66062-4705
Tracyawilliams@sbcglobal.net



FOR OP/GOA USE ONLY

Registration Number _____

Check Number _____

Date Received _____



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“CLUB FEATURE”

Submitted by Shirley Winnes

The Gardeners Club of Green Bay, Wisconsin, (where green and gold are the predominant colors!) has been around since 1967. Our membership has been quite consistent numbering around 70-80 members. We are so fortunate in having great turnouts for our regular monthly meetings in the neighborhood of 40 to 50 members. We have speakers in the winter months (either club members or invited speakers on topics arranged by a program committee) and tours to private gardens or greenhouse nurseries in the summer. We are also very fortunate to have the Green Bay Botanical Garden in our vicinity where we hold our winter meetings. We have developed a partnership with them whereby we have an annual work night helping with planting and/or weeding, and we also have numerous club volunteers who help with botanical garden sponsored events. In addition, we work closely with our local Agriculture and Extension Center and Master Gardeners.

We have conducted a variety of activities consistently for many

years. Two of these are the fall large produce weigh-in for anyone who wants to enter and the Youth Pumpkin and Sunflower contest held at our local farmers market. A date in September is selected, and flyers are distributed at the previous week's market letting people know about the weigh-in. Produce is weighed and blue ribbons are presented to anyone who breaks a record or establishes a new record. Historical records have been kept for over 30 years. In October, the diameter of sunflowers is measured and pumpkins are weighed to determine first, second, and third place winners of youth between the ages of 6 and 18.

In November, we hold a harvest banquet at a local supper club. Awards are presented to our youth winners in the pumpkin and sunflower categories. Our awards are \$100, \$75, and \$50 U.S. Series EE savings bonds. We also award “Silver Trowel” plaques to recognize excellent horticulture in the categories of residential, institutional, industrial, and commercial landscapes; a fifth award is given to an individual in the community who has excelled in some horticultural endeavor.

Nominated gardens are evaluated by our Silver Trowel committee in July.

We also choose community projects to which we donate funds and/or our plants and our labor to create gardens or make improvements. We have worked at a local nursing home, a Habitat for Humanity home, a wildlife sanctuary, and helped establish perennial and rain gardens at our local extension grounds.

We have sold Jersey Knight asparagus crowns for the past 10 years, and just last year began a day of asparagus celebration. All who ordered crowns can pick them up that day along with attending demonstrations of planting asparagus and preparing asparagus recipes. We offer asparagus soup and other refreshments for a nominal fee. We have also participated in spring plant sales for fund raising.

To conclude, our club members have formed a very cohesive group whereby individuals are willing to step up and make it possible to accomplish our organization's objectives and have a good time, too!

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*We have plenty of
sweatshirts and aprons in
stock. Get your orders in
now!*

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“CLUB ACTIVITIES FROM OTHER CLUBS”

The Rockwall-Rowlett Garden Club, whom is only in their sixth year of existence, holds their meetings at the Rockwall Community Center thanks to the Parks and Recreation Department of Rockwall. Outside the front door is a 7'x35' space. They have planted a test rose garden, coordinated with Texas A&M that included 24 earth kind roses.

With this free space, we have decided to plant a rose for each of our deceased members; thus, a rose will be dedicated for planting in honor of Steve Kimball, the past Southwest region director.

The Albany Men's Garden Club is sponsoring an “Early Tomato” contest this spring. Every club member is invited and encouraged to participate. The first member to produce a full size edible fully ripe tomato wins a gift certificate and acknowledgement that they are the tomato expert. There will also be a second prize. There are no entry fees, but you must start your tomato plants from seed.

“JOHNSTON PLANNING”

by Ron Heggen

Prior to the snowbirds departing for parts in the southern extremities of our country, the volunteers from the Men's Garden Club of Des Moines who tend to the care and upkeep of your headquarters grounds met to plan for the upcoming year.

Discussion at the meeting covered first the existing beds, be they flower and/or vegetable, retention of same, or elimination and what to do with the areas. In the same light, there was discussion of moving existing plantings. The main concern has to do with updating the beds that have been around for a long period of time and have lost their relevance, or replacing some that have become nothing but fodder for animals who frequent the grounds.

Second discussion had to do with picking the knowledge of those present on what varieties of plantings should be ordered to accomplish the 2011 goals of the committee to make a presentable presentation of the organizations expertise. A shopping list was prepared and once it is refined as to quantities, it will be given to the office

coordinator for presentation to a local supplier for order placement.

Third was a discussion on the replacement of trees removed after the wind storm last July. The office coordinator reported that \$825.00 was donated to cover replacement trees and bids would be obtained to have them planted in the spring. The trees being considered are a Pin Oak and Autumn Blaze Maple.

A fourth discussion covered weekly maintenance of the grounds and mowing of the two acres of grounds. The committee members in attendance agreed to continue the weekly upkeep of the grounds on Wednesdays, with mowing being accomplished on Tuesdays so trimming can be completed on Wednesday. The members at the meeting all agreed that there was hope for more members of Men's Garden Club of Des Moines to come forth to help on the committee commitment at the headquarters.

After general discussion on other relevant matters, the conversation got around to funds available for the committees operation in 2011. The officer

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coordinator reported that, in addition to the \$825.00 contributed by individuals and clubs for tree replacement, they could count on \$3,000.00 from the TGOA/MGCA Endowment and Investment Fund and \$1,000.00 from Men's Garden Club of Des Moines. In 2010 \$5,596.42 was expended to maintain the grounds. It is hoped that regions, affiliated clubs and members could come forth with monetary donations to help cover the outlays necessary to keep the grounds and facilities in a pristine condition.

Please remember that the cash contribution of the Men's Garden Club of Des Moines is in addition to the "sweat labor" of the members who work through out the year in your behalf. Do give serious consideration to contributing to the TGOA/MGCA Building and Grounds maintenance fund. (Or if in the Des Moines area on any Wednesday, from April through October, drop in and help those doing the grunt work)

P.S. Before publication, a \$100 donation was received from Mary Grandgeorge, a former TGOA/MGCA employee and a member-at-large in California.

"DO HOME REMEDIES REALLY WORK"

*taken from Garden Gate magazine
written by Jeff Gillman*

We all have seen many handy tips using do-it-yourself home remedies for the garden. Jeff Gillman, a horticulture professor at the University of Minnesota, started to wonder and decided to try some of these to see if they really work.

Here are a few which really do seem to work:

Garlic – used as insect repellent. Most effective against whiteflies, aphids and beetles. Blend one garlic bulb into two cups of water, strain and spray on leaves and stems. Thoroughly cover both upper and lower parts of the leaves and stems to keep insects away.

Milk – used as a fungicide. Need to apply it before black spot actually develops. All kinds of milk will work. Thoroughly spray the upper and lower surfaces of the leaves with milk every week.

Hot peppers – used as insect repellent. Works well on whiteflies and mites. May even help keep deer and rabbits from nibbling. In your blender, add ½ to 2 cups of hot peppers to 2 cups of water. Blend, strain and spray. Cover all parts of the leaves and stems. (Adding ¼ tsp dish soap helps the spray stick to the leaves. If you add dish soap, prevent burning foliage by spraying early in the day or when it's cloudy.) Make sure you don't touch

your eyes after handling the peppers.



"CALENDAR PROCESS"

*As written by
Shirley
Winnes, Calendar
Committee Chairperson
The Gardeners of Green Bay,
WI*

The work has begun on the 2012 TGOA/MGCA garden calendar. Thirteen photos have been selected from 178 possibilities. Two professional photographers and three members of the Gardeners of Green Bay club served on the team who evaluated the photos. One of the criteria was to select a photo from different photographers so that no one photographer has more than one photo in the calendar; each photo was coded with a number representing the photographer so that names were not associated with the photos.

The next step is to update to the 2012 months and fill in all necessary information. The calendar will be published and available at the June 2011 national convention in Overland Park, Kansas.

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**SUPPORT YOUR
ORGANIZATION.
ATTEND THE
CONVENTION!**

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FROM THE GARDEN SHOP ACCESSORIES

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)(description 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 & XXLg \$25

short sleeve Arrow dress shirt
(15 to 17-1/2) \$28.00

Gardening from the Heart t-shirt
(no logo choice) L-XL \$3

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
pins: membership, president, past president, etc. \$4.00

PLAQUE, club president (walnut) \$55
w/bronze plate(walnut \$38)(pressed wood \$30)

MUGS:

porcelain (both logos) \$3.50
terra cotta "flower pot" (both logos) \$5.50

GLOVES: long cuffed or summer glove \$6
S, M, Lg

SWEATSHIRTS: (TGOA logo)

M-XL \$15 2XL-3XL \$18

APRONS: \$14

UMBRELLA (sunflower or magnolia) \$15

Shipping and handling charges will be added to your order using this chart. Shipping is priority mail.

Total Order	Shipping and Handling Charge
Up to \$9.99.....	\$4.00
\$10.00 to \$49.99.....	\$7.50
\$40 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 website.

SUN BODY 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 form an almost impenetrable sun block. When they get wet, they stiffen and keep their shape making them great in sun or rain.

ORDER FORM (Please submit order and we will invoice you)

Name _____ Club name _____

Address _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

Style/Item	Size	Quantity	Price	Total

Head Size for Sun body hat (only): _____

Total enclosed: _____

*APPROPRIATE SHIPPING AND HANDLING CHARGES WILL BE ADDED TO THE INVOICE

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The Gardeners of America
5560 Merle Hay Rd/P.O. Box 241
Johnston, IA 50131-0241

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CERTIFICATES & PLAQUES

may be ordered from headquarters via email or telephonically at (515) 278-0295.

PARTNERS IN GARDENING

AMERICAN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (AHS)

Membership cost of \$40 for two years for a single or \$40 for one year for a couple. Check out the benefits of membership. www.ahs.org The more members that join, the less expensive the cost.

HERTZ: TGOA/MGCA member number is CDP#338537. Make reservations at www.hertz.com or 1-800-654-2210/2240.

ENTERPRISE:

TGOA/MGCA account number SB00001; enter pin #ENT. There is a 5% discount. Make reservations on line at www.enterprise.com or call 1-800-RENT-A-CAR.

SUNSHINE FARM & GARDENS: Members can save 10% off with offer code MG10. Check out http://sunfarm.com or http://sunfarm.com/specials/.

CALENDARS
DON'T FORGET TO PRE-ORDER YOUR 2012 CALENDARS BEFORE MARCH 31, 2011. WE WILL HAVE YOUR CALENDARS AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP AT CONVENTION IF WISH TO PICK THEM UP THERE.

2012 Calendar Order Form

Ship to:
Name:
Club Name
Street Address:
City:
State:
Zip:
1-249.....\$2.95 each
250-499.....\$2.75 each
500+.....\$2.65 each
Quantity ordered:
Total amount

Ship calendars to name and address above.
Will pick up on
(enter date/call ahead for time.)
Invoice will be sent with your calendars. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF ALL ORDERS PLACED.