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<http://www.mensgardenclubofalbany.org/>

(Serving the greater capital region)

Celebrating **83** years of service to our community

VOLUME 82 NO. 8

(First Chartered 1936)

October, 2019

Dinner (members and guests invited)

DATE & TIME: Thursday, October 24th @ 6:30 pm

PLACE: [PBD at Beltrone Living Center](#) 6 Winners Circle Albany

From Wolf Road *turn* East onto Metro Park Road (across from the Speedway Gas Station) *turn* LEFT at the first stop sign. *Turn* RIGHT at the first stop sign and continue on Winners Circle. Follow the signs for The Lakeview Restaurant & The Beltrone Living Center. Enter the building at the 1 South entrance.

Mazzone Catering will feature a nice Buffet with a variety of entrees: **Price: \$ 25.00**

Beef Teriyaki, Chicken Parmesan, and Pasta with Broccoli Rabe & Sweet Sausage

PROGRAM: Small Trees and Shrubs for Small Spaces

For our October program, we have invited a Certified Landscape Professional to educate us on selecting the perfect sized plant for our yards. **Amy Howansky** is the **owner of Backyard Solutions in Niskayuna**, who has decades of gardening and landscape experience to share.

Learn how to select appropriate plants for small spaces based on the plants' mature size. Discuss the controversy surrounding the use of pruning to reduce height and width. Answer the question, "What exactly is a dwarf plant?" See examples of small trees and shrubs that are perfect for under windows, along sidewalks, and near patios. Understand how the trends in real estate affect plant breeding and marketing, and vice versa. Get a glimpse of new cultivars on the market. **Amy** will provide hand-outs that will leave us all better prepared as we plan for next spring's landscape projects.

Amy Howansky is a horticulturalist, landscape designer, educator, and Certified Nursery and Landscape Professional. As a former educator with Cornell Cooperative Extension, she coordinated the Master Gardener Program, and taught pruning as part of the Citizen Pruners program. During her 36 years in the trade, she has coordinated community gardening programs, and has taught extensively about landscape design, tree care, vegetable gardening, and all things horticultural. As owner of Backyard Solutions, she creates landscape designs, and educates employees for other area landscape businesses. In her spare time, **Amy** enjoys painting, hiking, and, of course, gardening!

Reservations are required for the dinner

A caller should reach you soon for your reservation. If a caller does not reach you by Sunday, October 20th, please call **Russ Greenman** at (518) 477-8321 – Note: Our intent is to call every member that is interested in our dinner meetings to get their reservation(s). If you are not getting called, and would like to be called prior to each dinner, please let Russ know.

Thank You:

Thanks to all that attended our Annual Harvest Auction and to our own club Vice President, **Greg Goutos**, for being the auctioneer.

The proceeds from the auction were donated to a great program that offers youth an alternative way of learning through gardening. It is a fantastic program that MGCA board member - **Bill Stoneman** - started in the Albany School system 10 years ago. Since then **The Vegetable Project** has really been growing and is being recognized as an important educational tool.

For more information on the web [The Vegetable Project](http://vegetableproject.org/)

<http://vegetableproject.org/>



GARDEN TALK – By Paul Zimmermann (Past MGCA President)
Jerusalem Artichoke

I am continuing to write about vegetables that you can grow in your garden, but probably shouldn't. The Jerusalem artichoke is this month's object of my poison pen.

Much like the famous quip about the Holy Roman Empire, the Jerusalem artichoke is neither an artichoke nor is it remotely related to Jerusalem. In reality the Jerusalem Artichoke is a species of sunflower that is native to North America.

We'll start with the good news. The Jerusalem Artichoke is an easy to grow perennial. Its tubers can be eaten either raw or cooked, and have an agreeable nutty flavor. It's nutritious – high in protein, lots of B-complex vitamins and minerals (potassium, iron and copper). The flowers are attractive, and the plants can grow as tall as 10'. For you rancher types, the leaves and stems make good fodder.

Now the bad news and you've probably guessed this already – it's invasive! Like my good friend, the horseradish, once established Jerusalem Artichoke will become your eternal neighbor. Could be worse – think of the neighbor who plasters his front lawn with Fascist propaganda.



Jerusalem Artichoke, like many tubers, is uber easy to grow. Check your favorite garden supplier. Johnny's offers a "Stampede" variety, but there are others if you have the patience to scout around. In spring just stick the tubers in the ground about 2" below the surface and stand back. I repeat my warning – it's invasive. Of course if you have just sold your home and resent the buyer's attitude, plant a basket-full. Throw in some horse radish for good measure.

History – 30 years ago –
MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF ALBANY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MONTHLY MEETING
OCTOBER 5, 1989

A short but Regular Monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Men' Garden Club of Albany, was held on Thursday evening, October 5, 1989 in the Cerebral Palsy Center for the Disabled.

President **Don Lewis** opened the meeting at 8:55, which was immediately after the annual bulb packaging session.

The Minutes of the September 7, 1989 meeting were approved as read by the club secretary, **Tom Baker**.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented by out Club Treasurer, **Paul Hughes**. As of September 30, 1989 there was a total balance on hand of \$503.02. (1988 it was \$1,193.33). In the Memorial fund there was \$569.44. (1988 it was \$547.07). The Certificate of Deposit remains at \$5,267.00, this will change at the maturity on November 15, 1989.

At this point **Paul** made a final report on the Tan number issued by the State of New York. The Tax Exempt Certificate was issued on June 29, 1989. A copy of the original application was given to **Bob Ireland** along with a copy of the present Tax Exempt Certificate. Copies of this certificate are in the possession of the Treasurer and the Secretary. Attached!

Next dinner meeting: Will be held in the Tom Sawyer Motor Inn on October 26, 1989.

The full details will be found in the next Dirt.

George Landis Arboretum: A motion was made and carried to donate \$100.00 to the George Landis Arboretum. It was also suggested that the Secretary send along with the money, a thank you note for the use of the facility for our Annual Picnic. This should be directed to **Pam Rawlings**.

Slate of Officers: Candidates for 1990:

President.....	Wally Dillenbeck	Asst.. Sec.....	Lee Negus
1st Vice President.....	Joe Raggio	Treasurer.....	Al Miller
2nd Vice President.....	Herman Mau	Asst.. Treasurer.....	Don Stevens
Secretary.....	Tom Baker		

Scholarship: **Lee Negus** was asked to find out where we stand at this point.

State Museum: Our Club has been given the month of July once again to beautify the Lobby of the State Museum.

Gardening From the Heart: The Framework for the Greenhouse , donated by **Bill Krug** has been put up by **Bill Krug, Don Otterness, Wally Dillenbeck** and others.

Spring Regional Meeting: The Board voted to host the Spring Regional Meeting sometime in April or May. **Bob Ireland** will keep us informed with the details as they become known to him.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45. Respectfully submitted by Tom Baker, Secretary

** Editor's note: **Tom Baker** has been faithfully documenting our minutes since way before he had a personal computer - but somehow he has managed to digitize all of the minutes he has taken over the years and we now include them in our newsletter under the heading "History - 25 -or 30 years ago" Thanks, **Tom Baker!!!**

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB of ALBANY CLUB ACTIVITIES

Adopt-a-Highway - 25 years

We had a good run... We started our Adopt A Highway program back in 1994 by building a raised bed out of Hemlock and lots of rebar. Ten years later in 2004 - we built a raised bed that would last a lifetime. Unfortunately when construction started on the Exit 7 bridge off of I-90 our concrete base, block structure, soil and flower bulbs mysteriously disappeared leaving only the steel we drove down 5 feet to keep the Very thick concrete base from heaving.. **Ken Abele** during construction of our second raised bed on I-90 at Exit 7 Westbound. Built to last This was build as a Memorial to an outstanding member - **Mr. Conrad (Connie) Robert**. This project took years to get State and Federal approvals and lots of hard work from members of the Men's Garden Club of Albany. ps. If you know who borrowed our several thousand pound raised bed - **please ask them to return it**. Perhaps someone with big boy toys on site while working on the bridge knows. Thanks!!! Built to last... Destroyed in hours

Albany International Airport Don Wrieden – Chairman



MGCA Memorial Garden At the Albany County Cooperative Extension Joe Huth / Chuck Scott Memorial Garden Chairmen

For many years, our club has maintained a beautiful Memorial Garden as a tribute to our “Gardeners Gone to Rest.” The garden is located in Voorheesville on the grounds of the Albany County Cooperative Extension



MGCA Memorial Garden continued

offices. Along with perennials, shrubs and trees, there is also a plaque that lists the names of our club members who have passed away in recent years.

We would like to thank the club members who helped this year to maintain this special garden space. This year there was much to be done, since it had not been mulched in a couple of years. It took 10 yards of mulch to accomplish this task, and it was quite a big effort. Thank you to **Joe Huth, Chuck Scott, Jack Meagher** and **Greg Goutos** for doing the seasonal maintenance that is necessary to keep the garden looking nice.

Also, there was an effort this year to upgrade the individual name tags on the plaque of the club members who are no longer with us. Thank you, **Joe Huth**, for leading this task, as well as leading us in our tribute to recognize the members who we lost this past year when we gathered for our annual picnic held on July 28.



We continue to welcome 501(c)3 deductible donations that can be dedicated to support our **Memorial Garden, Gardening From the Heart** program at the Center for Disability Services, or the **Joe Herman Scholarship Fund**.

Please send your 501(c)3 tax deductible donation to **Russ Greenman** MGCA Treasurer

Please call **Russ Greenman** at (518) 477-8321 for details



Gardening from the Heart - 34 years

at the

Center for Disability Services

Volunteers include: Tom Baker, Russ Greenman, Greg Goutos, Joe Huth, Jack Meagher, Bruce Wilcox, and Don



Wrieden.

September was spent harvesting the last of the kale (for the dog treats), radishes, HOT peppers, , eggplant, celery, beans, tomatoes, herbs, and onions,. All of our student’s hard work is paying off and they each get to pick and bring home a bag of veggies each week.



If you have free time on Wednesday mornings – you could consider helping us out. We need help finding indoor projects that are gardening



related. – I bet it will do as much good for you as it

does for our students.

– Contact anyone of our volunteers to find out more.



DATES TO REMEMBER

Today!	Please visit our friends that need our visits and cards
October 24 th @ 6:30 pm November 21 st @ 6:30 pm December 19 th @ 6:30 pm	Monthly dinner and program Beltrone Living Center
November 7 th @ 7:30 pm December 5 th @ 7:30 pm	Board of Director's Meeting All members are invited
Every Wednesday : @ 9:15 am	Gardening from the Heart Center for Disability Services 700 South Pearl St. Albany

Editor: **Russ Greenman**

Membership

John O'Grady – I'm sorry to report that **John O'Grady** has joined our Gardeners Gone to Rest.

John was a true gentleman that raised a great family and lived to make this world a better place. **John** ran our Scholarship committee for years and was always there to help with our many community service projects. Our thoughts and Prayers are with **Emily** and his family.

Tom Baker - 91 years young – is currently at the Atria - Guilderland, and he would love a visit or phone call - (518) 649-3868.

Herm Mau has been in and out of Hospice and he's currently at home being cared for by **Mary**. I'm sure she would welcome your calls and perhaps a visit.

Please support research for ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis - Lou Gehrig's disease) in memory of one of our most active members - **Mr. Bill Town**

Click on this link to read his story: <http://community.als.net/teamtown>

Special thanks to **Paul Zimmermann** for our terrific website

<http://www.mensgardenclubofalbany.org/>

Go ahead - click on it - you'll be glad you did.

Thanks **Paul Zimmermann!!!**



Check out our very own - **Bill Stoneman's**

[The Vegetable Project](#)

The Vegetable Project in Albany, N.Y., established in 2009, creates hands-on learning opportunities that involve science, the environment, entrepreneurship, tasting really fresh food and responsibility for care of living things by growing vegetables and other plants.

Digging in the dirt at Stephen and Harriet Myers Middle School and Albany High School, the Vegetable Project is a collaborative effort of parents, faculty and other staff members and community partners that supports after-school and summertime Garden Clubs, presents classroom lessons and brings families together for occasional weekend events. The Vegetable Project is a 501c3 tax-exempt nonprofit corporation.

[Here's our brochure with more.](#)

In Memory
Of My
Loving Wife, Young
Bruce Wilcox

In Memory of
Louis Meo
&
Richard Stankus

In Memory of
Al & Barbara Miller
Phil Harris
Bill Barr
Christian & Mildred Lebrecht
Ed Tompkins
Avrom Koblenz

In Memory of my parents
John and Carrie Meagher
They both loved Plants and Flowers
Jack Meagher

In Memory of
Grandpa & Great Grandpa
Carroll W. Greenman
Russ, Maria, and Carl

In Memory of
*Wally Dillenbeck*
and
*Don Otterness*
By Tom Baker

In Memory of

Bill Town
Joe Herman

In Memory of
my Dad

Carroll W. Greenman
Bob



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