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

(Serving the greater capital region)

Celebrating **81** years of service to our community (First Chartered 1936)

VOLUME 80 NO. 8

October, 2017

Dinner and Program (everyone invited)

DATE & TIME: Thursday, October 26th @ 6:30 pm

PLACE: *PBD at Beltrone Living Center* 6 Winners Circle Albany

From Wolf Road go East onto Metro Park Road (across from the Hess Station) Take a LEFT onto Winners Circle. At stop sign take a RIGHT continuing on Winners Circle Following the signs for The Lakeview Restaurant & The Beltrone Living Center. Enter the building at the 1 South entrance.

ENTREE: Braised Pot Roast with Mashed Potatoes, Vegetables
Chicken and Autumn Vegetable Stew
Baked Salmon with Orange Fennel Marmalade, Risotto, Vegetables

DESSERT: Chocolate Pudding Cake **Price:** \$ 25.00

PROGRAM: The Vegetable Project by our own Bill Stoneman

This month's speaker is our very own club member, **Bill Stoneman**, who is the head of an Albany-based nonprofit organization called **The Vegetable Project** that uses gardens to create hands-on teaching and learning opportunities. **Bill** works as a building substitute teacher at **Albany High School**, where he shares a concern that mainstream education may not be working for many students, and that schools are struggling to meet the challenge for those students who are not thriving in a traditional classroom environment. **Bill** first started a garden program at the **Stephen and Harriet Middle School** in Albany in 2009, which later grew into **The Vegetable Project** and expanded to **Albany High School**.

The Vegetable Project, which supports teachers in developing garden-or plant-related instruction, leads an after-school Garden Club at **Myers Middle School**. They offer paid internships to Albany High students and also partner with the City of Albany's summer youth employment program. They have found that contact with nature, working with one's hands, can cross traditional academic discipline boundaries, while offering an opportunity to engage some students who may otherwise falter in the traditional passive classroom learning environment.

Next up on the organization's agenda is the development of an outdoor classroom at **Myers Middle School**, with the hope of making teaching outdoors irresistible to the school's teaching staff!

Bill worked as a journalist for more than 25 years, with writing and editing experience at newspapers and magazines, before pursuing his master's degree in teaching from the **College of Saint Rose** in 2013. He lives in Albany and enjoys growing his own vegetables in his backyard. He joined our club in 2016 and serves also as a Board Director. www.vegetableproject.org

Reservations are required for the dinner

A caller should reach you soon for your reservation. If a caller leaves a message, please make every effort to return the call. If a caller does not reach you by Friday, 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.

Membership

We have a gardener (potential member) that is looking for someone to take care of a few indoor plants for the winter. These plants have been in the family for a long time and they would be happy to pay for "foster care" for these for the winter, none of them seem to have any diseases, etc. Please let Russ know if you know of anyone that has some extra room for the following:

If you can attend the October dinner meeting you can talk with the owner and get further details.

- **ornamental orange tree, about 40 inches tall**
- **gardenia, in an 8 inch pot**
- **a ming aralia about 20 inches high, not full**
- **two philodendrons, one small in water, another hangs 23 inches**
- **small ivy, in a 7 inch pot**
- **spike plant, 7 inch pot, 14 inches high**

October Harvest Festival Program - Thank You!

Auctioneer – Mr. Don Wrieden

Harvest Auction –

Our October harvest auction was a great success thanks to all that brought things to sell, and those that trusted our favorite auctioneer – **Mr. Don Wrieden** – by purchasing whatever he said you needed. We had a nice selection of, veggies, flowers, plants, homemade breads, pies, jams, and even some home brew adult beverages.

This is the meeting where we bring items to sell and the money raised is used to support our Memorial Garden at the Albany County Cornell Cooperative Extension. As always, **Don Wrieden** – our favorite auctioneer – has an impressive way of making you feel good while spending money. Thanks again to all that helped make this a great success.

Gardening tips - From The Al Miller archives

GARDEN TALK

This time of the year the question always arises; Can I bring some of my favorite garden plants indoors and hold them over for the next year?. That is a very difficult question to answer. Each individual's home provides different atmospheric conditions, such as available light, humidity and heat source. The first two of these can be somewhat controlled by using Grow Lights in conjunction with a timer to control the length of time the lights are on. The amount of heat in the home will generally depend on the individual's comfort zone and if they have a room in which they can maintain the correct amount of heat healthy plants require. Consideration must also be given to the expectations of the person asking the question. Do they expect the plants to flower all winter? Some plants will only flower when given short days and long nights and others require just the opposite. You can readily see how difficult it is to grow plants with different light requirements even under controlled grow lights unless you have several lights on different timers. There are however, some plants that don't require specific light periods, such as the African violet, coleus and geranium. Following is a list of some houseplants and the recommended distance between the plant and the grow light:

3" - 4" Culinary Herbs, Chrysanthemum, Kalanchoe, Geranium, Orchid

10" - 12" Azalea, Cactus, Cineraria, Cyclamen, Gloxinia, Jasmine,
African Violet, most Succulents

18" - 20" Snake plant, Umbrella plant, Pothos plant, Piggyback plant,
Spider plant, Philodendron

When January and February arrive, however, and you want to start seeds for early spring planting, there are a different set of requirements. Some seeds require light to germinate and others have to be covered; the amount of covering depends on the size of the seed. Consult the seed packet for the correct depth to plant. All seedlings should be no further away from the light than 3" - 4". Raise the lights as the seedlings grow. Newly germinated seedlings and root cuttings require 20 hours of light a day. Most annual vegetables and flowering plants require 14 – 18 hours a day.

So you can see, caring for plants indoors with or without grow lights can be a challenging and interesting past time. Have fun this winter.

Thanks to Al Miller

History – 25 years ago
MEN`S GARDEN CLUB OF ALBANY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MONTHLY MEETING
OCTOBER 1, 1992

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Men's Garden club of Albany, was held on Thursday evening, October 1, 1992 in the center for the Disabled.

President **Herm Mau** opened the meeting at 7:30.

The Minutes of the September 3, 1992 meeting were approved as read by the Club Secretary, Tom Baker.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by **Fred Day** our Treasurer and was approved. As of September 30, 1992 there was a balance on hand including all accounts of \$12,877.05.

* Bulb Sale Committee: All Garden Club participants will have "free" parking, but everyone must park in Lot #3. Follow the signs for the parking lot. Come prepared for any kind of weather. And, be prepared to have a good time at this Old time country fair.

* Scholarship Committee: No report was given.

* Up coming programs:

1. October 22, 1992: This meeting will be in the Italian-American Community Center

The speaker will be **Sidney Edison** who will speak on "A Place in the Shade". He will discuss ways to get the most out gardening in shady areas, especially when this is all that you have to work with.

2. November 19, 1992: It would be well to mark your calendars because this meeting is one week earlier than usual due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

3. The December Meeting is the Annual Ladies Invited Dinner Meeting. All the details will be published in the Dirt.

* The Board voted to keep the Club dues at \$18.00 for another year.

* **Don Lewis** will head the nominating committee and he expects to get his committee together which consists of the past three Presidents.

* **Norman Hulme** volunteered to make some tables that will very suitable for our plant sales and other functions. These will be very portable and not too heavy.

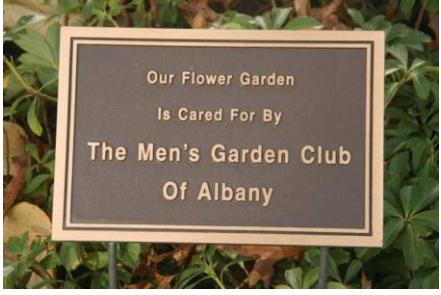
* MEMORIALS: Who is eligible to have a tree planted upon their demise? Only those members who were fully paid members at the time of death. Any person who was a member in good standing for at least five years and had to drop out because of poor health or inability to attend meetings, a contribution of \$25.00 will be made in his memory to our endowment Fund.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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 years ago" Thanks, **Tom Baker!!!**



MEN'S GARDEN CLUB of ALBANY CLUB ACTIVITIES

Albany International Airport
Don Wrieden – Chairman



Adopt-a-Highway –
On hold until our raised bed is returned



Ken Abele during construction of our second raised bed on I-90 at Exit 7 Westbound. Built to last with lots of steel, many yards of concrete, some fancy filter material that **Ken Abele** found to keep the soil from washing out between the blocks, 2" foam insulation (allows us to plant tulip bulbs closer to the edges), many blocks hauled by **Ken Abele** and many yards of nice soil from **Osborne Mills Nursery** on Everett Road in Albany. And most importantly, 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**.



Someone that was working on the bridge at Exit 7 of I-90 knows where it is.

Built to last...
Destroyed in hours
This was our Memorial to **Mr. Conrad (Connie) Robert**



Gardening from the Heart at the Center for Disability Services

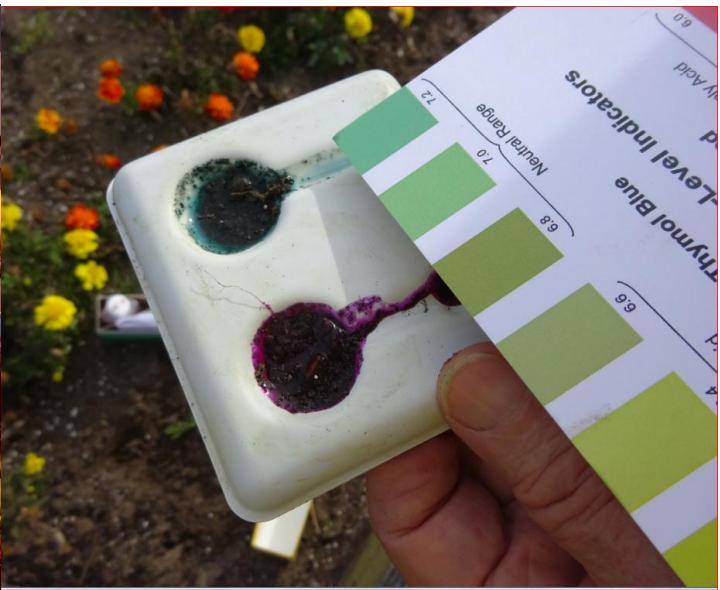
Volunteers in September included: **Tom Baker, Russ Greenman, Joe Herman, Joe Huth, Jack Meagher, Bruce Wilcox, and Don Wrieden.** It seems like Summer started at the end of September and the hot weather kept us from apple picking on September 27th because of the 90 degree temperature. We rescheduled our trip to **Goold's Orchard** and had a great time – as always. The folks at **Goold's Orchard** really do their best to make a very enjoyable morning out. We all enjoyed the apples, cider donuts, apple cider and a few of our staff seem to drift toward their winery. Bottom line: everyone leaves happy. As you can see from the photos we're picking less, and by next week we will probably start cleaning up the gardens while the temperatures are summer like.

A special thanks goes to the folks at **Goold's Orchard** for all they do. If you have free time on Wednesday mornings – you could consider helping us out – I bet it will do as much good for you as it does for the individuals. – Contact anyone of our volunteers to find out more.



A good October day at Goold's Orchard





Greenhouse and raised beds at the Center For
Disability Services 700 S. Pearl St.



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



Harris Memorial Centerpiece

Thanks to the **Harris** kids!

Each month, the **Harris family**, **Dave** and his sister **Diane** design and create a beautiful centerpiece to honor their parents and their brother **Phil**. Every month one of their masterpieces has been raffled off since 1980 - **YES, That's 37 Years!!!** and the money goes into our Memorial fund. The more I think about it, the more amazed I am at how much time, talent and money goes into each one of the **Harris** centerpeices that **Phil** and now **Dave** have been bringing, to every meeting, for more years than I can remember. What talent and generosity that family has. We can't begin to thank all of you for all you have done for us over the years. **Thanks again to the Harris kids!**

Scholarship Winner Announced

This year's recipient of the \$500 scholarship is **Emily Lewis** of Round Lake, NY. **Emily** just completed her senior year at Shenendahowa High School, where she maintained a 98 average while also an outstanding athlete on the Track & Field Team. She just started her first semester at the University of Delaware, where she is majoring in Environmental Studies, with a focus in Geology.

Emily is the Niece of our club Vice President, **Greg Goutos**. It is always nice to award the scholarship to a person with a connection to our club, and she is the first female to receive it in many years. Congratulations and good luck to her, and be sure to meet **Emily** when she is an honored guest at our Christmas dinner meeting.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Today!	Please visit our friends that need our visits and cards
November 2 nd @ 7:30 pm December 7 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
October 26 th @ 6:30 pm November 16 th @ 6:30 pm December 14 th @ 6:30 pm	Monthly Dinner meeting Monthly Dinner meeting Monthly Dinner meeting

Editor: **Russ Greenman**

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.

*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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