



Nursery Growers of Lake County Ohio, Inc.

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Dear Members

January 1, 2010

I hope everybody's family had a good Christmas and I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year. Let's hope 2010 is better than 2009!

Our membership is currently at 127, down slightly from this time last year. Despite tough economic times, our Association remains strong member-wise and financially. We have a membership committee that is actively seeking new members. If you know of any potential new members, please direct them to our website www.nglco.com where membership applications are posted. Or they can give a call to Annette, our Executive Secretary, or me.

Our NGLCO calendars are back by popular demand! Pick up your copy at Ridge Manor Nursery, Sunleaf Nursery or Gilson Gardens.

The 2010 NGLCO Member Maps will be ready soon. You can pick up your copies at MANTS, CENTS or at Gilsons, Sunleaf or Ridge Manor nurseries.

Our Field Day Committee is working with *Lake Metroparks Farm park* on plans for August 10, 2010. Flyers and promotional bookmarks will be available soon. Pick up your copies at the local nurseries mentioned above.

All NGLCO members will be represented at MANTS this year, for the first time, as well as at CENTS. Be sure to provide your catalogs prior to or during the shows!

February Dinner Meeting

Topic: *How to Handle Nursery Labor Inspections*

Tuesday February 9, 2010

Rider's 1812 Inn

792 Mentor Avenue, Painesville, Ohio 44077

5 PM Social Hour

6 PM Dinner

7 PM Meeting

7:30 PM Program

Price: \$30 RSVP to Annette, annette@gilsongardens.biz

The board will be holding a half-day planning meeting on Tuesday, February 2, 2010, noon to 4 PM, and past-presidents are invited. We would also like to hear from our members before-hand if you have any suggestions, comments or criticisms about our association or ideas for future meeting topics and locations!

March Dinner Meeting

Topic: Surviving in tough times: *LEAN Management Techniques*

Tuesday March 9, 2010

On December 2, NGLCO co-hosted a reception with the *LEAP Native Plant Promotion Committee* at Cleveland Botanical Garden. The event was co-hosted by *Biodiversity Alliance*. Over forty attendees, including many from the nursery industry, participated in constructive discussions about where we are headed with regard to 'invasive plants', 'native plants' and native cultivars. A follow-up meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, at 1 PM, at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. All NGLCO members are invited.

Thanks to everyone who helped make the NGLCO Christmas gathering at Scores Bowling Alley in Painesville a great success. Dave Kappel, Sunleaf Nursery, won top honors in the bowl-off in his *Jerry Springer* bowling shirt. Vic Mastrangelo, Chagrin Valley Nursery, won the open section and placed second in the bowl-off. Another notable finisher was our member who broke her wrist in the first frame. We all wish her a speedy recovery.

We collected \$55 from the 50/50 raffle that night and, along with Vic's donation of his winnings, we were able to help a needy family for the holidays.

Our sympathies go out to Richard Moretti and his family who recently lost their fifteen-year-old daughter, Melanie. The motorist responsible for hitting Melanie as she walked along a street near her home turned herself in several days after the tragic accident.

Congratulations to Dave Richards of Auburn Career Center! Dave was named the 2009 *PLANET Educator Trailblazer*. *Trailblazers* represent a special group of dedicated teachers who are nominated by their peers for making significant and long-term contributions to the green industry. Dave has worked for several local nurseries over the years and is currently an ONLA board member.

That's all for now.

Sincerely,

Chuck Von Hof, Ridge Manor Nursery
NGLCO President