



Happy Holidays



Italian Garden was first to decorate for the Holidays! All Gardens are urged to do the same



Jeff Johnson speaks at OWD



Piast Dancers

THE CLEVELAND CULTURAL GARDENS FEDERATION

E Newsletter

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63rd Annual One World Day – September 19

The event was larger this year than in the recent past, as many gardens participated. Starting at 1:00pm with the dedication of the new Armenian Garden and concluding with the traditional swearing in of new US citizens in the Hungarian Garden, the One World Day attendees enjoyed cool, yet sunny afternoon at the Cultural Gardens.

The celebration involved performances throughout the gardens. Dancers performed in the Irish Garden and poetry reading was done in the Italian Garden. Parade of Flags, flags of the 26 nationalities represented in the park, descended down the steps in the Hungarian Garden making for a delightful sight, concluding with the Posting of Flags – always a colorful ceremony. Legendary Rocco Scotti performed the National Anthem to open the One World Day ceremony at 4:00pm. This event celebrates the diversity of cultures calling Cleveland home.

After a performance by the Csardas Dancers, Councilman Jeff Johnson – Honorary Chairperson and Congressman Dennis Kucinich made brief remarks. CCGF's Mary Hamlin spoke about the gardens and the One World Day ceremony continued with the traditional naturalization event where new U.S. citizens were sworn in. Magistrate Judge David S. Perelman performed the ceremony for the last time as he will be retiring.

Many thanks go to the organizing committee chaired by Anda Cook, to all the Gardens that participated by providing speakers in their Gardens and all the attendees. Nationality refreshments were available and the program concluded with Piast Polish Dancers and door prizes given away.

To submit articles, photos - low resolution please, and other information, send e-mail to Paul Burik at paulb54@centurytel.net



Armenian Garden Dedicated

On September 19, as a part of One World Day 2010, the newly built Armenian Garden was dedicated. The very well attended dedication of the new garden was a credit to the Armenian community in Cleveland and to Berj Shakarian who designed it. The Garden's presence on MLK Blvd. has already stimulated inquiries about the Cultural Gardens. Kevan Asodorian served as the Master of Ceremonies and guided the speakers through the program. The garden was blessed by Father Martiros Hakobyan and the Armenian National Anthem was performed.

Number of speakers explained the Armenian culture and the symbolism of this Cultural Garden, specifically as it relates to the Armenian alphabet – the theme of the Garden. CCGF President Paul Burik welcomed the Armenian Garden to the family of nations represented in the Cleveland Cultural Gardens and Mayor Frank Jackson delivered a proclamation welcoming the Garden to this City of Cleveland Park. The release of white doves was a very touching conclusion to the dedication.

Congratulations to the Armenian community and the Garden committee for a job well done!

Upcoming Events

December 14 – CCGF
Holiday Dinner

CCGF Meetings

January 11 – General
membership meeting

Meetings are held at
Judson Manor,
1890 East 107 Str.
at 6:30pm

Syrian Gardens Started

The Syrian Community broke ground in mid August on their new Garden. This garden will also front on MLK Blvd., adding to the presence on this highly traveled road. It already inspired a sizable article in the local newspaper. Congratulations to the Syrian community on the speedy progress.

New Bust Dedicated in the Czech Garden

A bust of Bozena Nemcova, Czech female novelist know for her writing about village life in Bohemia – modern Czech Republic, was dedicated on September 25, 2010, at 5:00pm at the Czech Garden. The Bill Hronek Czech band, traditional brass orchestra, performed before and during the ceremony.

The original bust was lost years ago when the gardens experienced difficult times. However with the resurgence of the park, the Czech community with the Victor Ptak family in the forefront and the Holden Parks Trust assisting, re-installed a new bronze bust. Paul Burik sculpted the artwork.



Senator Voinovich speaks in the Czech garden

GARDEN WEB SITES:

Cultural Gardens Site
www.culturalgardens.org

Czech Garden
czechculturalgarden.webs.com

Irish Garden
www.irishgardenclub.org

Hungarian Garden
hungarianculturalgarden.org

Slovenian Garden
www.cleslo.com/scga/

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Senator Voinovich was on hand to witness the dedication and honor Mila Hyvnar for her lifetime support of the Czech community. The bust was dedicated in her honor.

Estonians Make Progress

The Estonian community continues with the renovation of their Garden. The retaining wall which mimics the form of the monument and sidewalks are in place and the newly created planting bed is ready for flowers in the spring. Congratulations!

Holiday Dinner

The annual Holiday Dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 14 – our regular meeting night, at St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Cathedral on Warren Road in Lakewood. This is an opportunity to socialize with other delegates, see the holiday customs and try the food of other nationalities. It has been a very enjoyable event in the years past. Send your reservations in early!

CCGF Elections Coming Up

With the first of the year approaching, elections for trustee positions on the Executive Board will be coming up. It is important that people step up and are willing to serve! Please consider doing that when the nominating committee calls.

If you feel that things could be better, that you have ideas for the organization, contact the president or the nominating committee, which will be announced at the January meeting.

New Brochure Produced

The Federation produced a new brochure to be used for publicity and as a general guide to the Gardens. Erika Puussaar spearheaded the effort and developed a simple and elegant document full of photos – a picture is worth a thousand words. Thanks so much Erika!

All members are urged to distribute these to promote the park.

Volunteers Help in the Gardens

On September 17, CWRU volunteers assisted with chores around the gardens to get them ready for OWD and for the winter (see photo at left).

Thanks to all the volunteers throughout the year!
With your dedication and their help this park is looking better each year.



Composer Chopin Back on a Stand

On October 17, 2010 the bust of composer Chopin was reinstalled in the Polish Garden. Ben Stefanski and the Polish American Cultural Center did a spectacular job to celebrate the event. The Garden was immaculate and the central fountain sparkled. All this was topped off by a concert grand piano brought to the Garden. Dr. David Dubai, professor at Julliard School of music in New York City, performed Chopin's compositions to delight the attendees. Dr. Dubai surprised all when he announced that he grew up in the neighborhood, just blocks away.

The Polish community is making a steady progress in replacing the busts in their Garden, Congratulations!



Dublin Fountain Replicated

The Irish community continues with upgrades in their Garden. A new phase started in July features a fountain imported from Ireland, a replica of one in Dublin, Ireland. The fountain is a centerpiece of a new plaza which significantly expands the Irish Garden. Great work!



Peace Bust Restored

The American Legion Peace Garden restored the pedestal and the head of symbolic figure of Peace. Three new granite plaques were also replaced, including the one which identifies the crypt for the Soil of Nations. Nice job!

Monte Grappa Commemoration

The Consul of Italy in Detroit, Marco Nobili and Joyce Mariani, Executive Director of the Italian Cultural Garden Foundation, hosted Mayor Frank Jackson, Cleveland area Veterans, Councilmen Jeff Johnson and Matt Zone in a commemoration ceremony honoring US Veterans on Nov. 11, 2010. In 1932 the Italian government sent the gift of a huge boulder from the Monte Grappa mountain to honor the Italian American soldiers who fought in WWI.



Mayor Jackson

[This e-newsletter was produced by Paul Burik for the CCGF.](#) **Feel free to pass it on!**