



# THE CLEVELAND CULTURAL GARDENS FEDERATION

## E Newsletter

Issue 26

September 2011

### In this issue:

- ❖ One World Day
- ❖ German concert
- ❖ Czech Event
- ❖ Polish Dedication
- ❖ Hungarian Concert
- ❖ Italian Opera
- ❖ Nationalities Mvmt
- ❖ Garden Maintenance
- ❖ New Gardens
- ❖ Dante Sculpture

### CCGF Meetings

Sept. 13 – General  
Membership Meeting

Oct. 11 – Exec. Bd.

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



Statue of Lesya Ukrajinka  
restored

## One World Day Celebration – August 28

This year we will hold the celebration on August 28th – in hope to avoid conflict with the football home opener and perhaps attract more recognition.

The Ukrainian Garden volunteered to be the primary location of the event since they plan on re-dedicating the large statue of Lesya Ukrajinka – pseudonym for popular woman writer and nationalist. The newly installed Syria Garden agreed to be the starting point of the Parade of Flags. This year we hope to have a larger parade, with many people in national costumes from existing and future Gardens, even nationalities not yet developing a garden.

The schedule for the day is:

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 12:00 - 5:00pm | Lolly-the-Trolley to circulate<br>Gardens (narrated till 1:00pm)     |
| 1:00 – 2:00pm  | Ukrainian Garden; statue re-dedication<br>program (Ukrainian Garden) |

### concurrent events at two sites

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 2:00 – 3:00pm  | <i>Ukrainian Garden – performance by<br/>Ukrainian artists, flag bearers depart<br/>for Syrian Garden</i>                |
| 2:30 – 3:00pm  | <i>Parade of Flags to assemble at Syrian<br/>Garden</i>  |
| 3:00 – 3:20pm  | <i>Irish Dancers in Ukrainian Garden</i>   |
| 3:00pm         | <i>Parade of Flags departs Syrian Garden</i>   |
| 3:30pm         | Parade of flags arrives  |
| 3:30pm         | OWD <u>program starts</u> :<br>Welcome remarks, meaning of One<br>World Day  |
| approx. 4:00pm | Naturalization ceremony for new U.S.<br>citizens   |
| approx. 5:00pm | event concludes, <i>drawing for prizes</i><br>Food will be available throughout the day, free parking along<br>MLK Blvd. |

**This is a signature event for the Federation. Please  
make plans to attend the 64<sup>th</sup> annual ONE WORLD DAY!**



German Garden  
performance

## Existing Gardens

*African American  
American Legion  
American Colonial  
Armenian  
Azerbaijani  
British, Chinese  
Croatian, Czech  
Estonian, Finish  
German, Greek, Hebrew  
Hungarian, India, Irish  
Italian, Latvian,  
Lithuanian, Polish  
Romanian, Rusin, Serbian  
Syrian, Slovak, Ukrainian*



Grand Piano and violin  
performers at Polish  
Garden

## German Cultural Garden Concert. by Mary Hamlin

Three bands contributed to the distinctive, cheerful sound emanating from the German Cultural Garden on Sunday, July 10th. Guests were happily tapping their toes to the irresistible rhythms as Goethe and Schiller gazed down from their lofty heights. Hans Kopp, German Cultural Garden delegate, took on the role as MC and introduced the bands, one traveling from Youngstown to perform in the German Cultural Garden.

## Czech Gardens Hosted Sculptor's Family

Frank Jirouch, 1878 -1970, was a sculptor of many busts and statues in the Cultural Gardens. All the pieces in the Czech Garden were done by him as he was of Czech descent. The Cleveland Chapter of SVU (Czech and Slovak Society of Arts and Sciences) hosted his family, who came from across the nation to explore their renown great uncle, at the Czech Garden on July 10<sup>th</sup>. Presentation on the life of Mr. Jirouch was made by Dr. Bohonek, and in turn the members of the Jirouch family shared their memories. The SVU group will attempt to organize a retrospective exhibit of works held by the family members such as paintings which Frank Jirouch regularly gave at holidays and on birthdays.

## Polish Garden Dedicates a Bust

On July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, the Polish community added to their collection of people of importance in their history by dedicating a bust of Ignace Paderewski (1860-1941), a musician and a composer as well as a nationalist and a statesman, in their Garden.

Ben Stefanski oversaw the event which included numerous VIPs. Mayor Frank Jackson in his remarks recognized the Polish community's achievements and their impact on Cleveland. Gary Kotlarsik, Polish garden delegate to the Federation, has worked behind the scenes to make the event special. A performance on a grand piano of Padarewski's music concluded the dedication. Congratulations to the Poles for continuous improvement to their Garden!

## GARDEN WEB SITES:

### **Cultural Gardens Sites**

[www.culturalgardens.org](http://www.culturalgardens.org)  
[clevelandculturalgardens.org](http://clevelandculturalgardens.org)

### **Czech Garden**

[czechculturalgarden.webs.com](http://czechculturalgarden.webs.com)

### **Irish Garden**

[www.irishgardenclub.org](http://www.irishgardenclub.org)

### **Hungarian Garden**

[hungarianculturalgarden.org](http://hungarianculturalgarden.org)

### **Slovenian Garden**

[www.cleslo.com/scga/](http://www.cleslo.com/scga/)

### **Italian garden**

[https://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group\\_140250535544](https://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_140250535544)



CCGF President Paul Burik and Mary Hamlin spoke about the Gardens at the Nationalities Movement awards dinner.

*To submit articles, photos - low resolution please, and other information, send e-mail to Paul Burik at [paulb54@centurytel.net](mailto:paulb54@centurytel.net)*

## **Hungarian Cultural Garden Concert**

An elegant Liszt concert was performed in the Hungarian Cultural Garden on Saturday, July 23rd, to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of Ferenc Liszt's Birthday. Vera Holczer, native of Budapest and founder and Director of the Aurora School of Music, brought a team of five international piano artists and also a team of students to perform in the Garden, along with a Yamaha 7ft Grand Piano. Ted Horvath opened the program by singing the National Anthem. Greg Polyak, as MC, introduced the performers and, at the close of the program, Carolyn Balogh, Hungarian Cultural Garden President, thanked the performers and guests for attending. Ferenc (Franz) Liszt viewed the performers, no doubt with approval, from his plaque, dedicated in 1934. Tree planting to recognize sponsors followed. (by Mary Hamlin)

## **Opera in the Italian Garden 2011**

A record crowd of 1, 158 adults and numerous children attended the "Opera in the Italian Garden" July 31, 2011 with the Opera Per Tutti opera company lead by Andrea Anelli. Picnics dotted the garden around the upper level Renaissance fountain whose spray glistened in the warm sun. The concert drew many people who were happy to learn about the Italian Garden and the Cultural Gardens along East Blvd., which they visited after the concert. Many were surprised to learn not all the Cultural Gardens are on MLK Blvd. A new expanded sound system was put in place due to the growing attendance at this popular, annual concert for the public. Joyce Mariani, Executive Director of the Italian Cultural Garden Foundation, organized the event and invited Jan Jones to take on the role of MC. Verdi, on his plaque just below the balcony, would have been impressed. Even the Fiat cars, displayed on the lawn area near East Boulevard, seemed to join in the applause!

## **Nationalities Movement Recognizes the Gardens**

The Nationalities Movement founded by former Mayor Ralph Perk, now headed by his son Judge Ralph Perk Jr., recognized the value of the Cultural Gardens to the community by honoring the Federation's President Paul Burik with a "Freedom Award". In his remarks Mr. Burik commented that the work of the Nationalities Movement during the cold war directly impacted his life, specifically his immigration to US from Czechoslovakia in 1968. So it was an honor to be recognized and in a way give back to this organization by providing a service to the nationalities that call Cleveland home.

## **Garden Maintenance an Ongoing Task**

An appreciation to all those Gardens who do the tedious task of weeding, watering and otherwise maintaining the gardens. This often gets overshadowed by new construction or large renovation, however it is just as important to the image of the park. A new garden left unattended soon looks abandoned.

## **New Gardens to Start**

The Korean community and the Russian community in Cleveland have been accepted to the Federation based on their proposal for a Garden. At the August meeting both organizations selected a site for their respective gardens at the north end of MLK Blvd. Best wishes to both groups.



## **Dante Statue Comes to Life**

Sandro Bonaiuto works in his temporary studio on East 45<sup>th</sup> street to mold the clay and bring to life an image of Dante Alighieri, 1265 – 1321, an iconic poet of the Italian people. The statue will be placed on the upper level of the Italian Garden with Dante watching, and perhaps judging, the visitors.

Mr. Bonaiuto is a Cleveland born sculptor who studied his craft in Bologna, Italy. There he acquired passion for Italian culture, history, and language as he connected with his family roots. “It is my pleasure to bring the culture of Italian people to the people of Cleveland, as do all the Gardens in this park” says Sandro. He puts the finishing touches on the clay model as he gets personal with the figure in front of him: “my friend, tomorrow they come to move you, it is time to go to the foundry – it’s time my friend”. The next step is casting this life size depiction of the poet in his thirties, an age when he wrote his epic poem “Divine Comedy”.



“I created the face based on skeletal reconstruction at the University of Bologna, I gave him smooth skin – he was young then”. Dante Alighieri, and the poets of that time, had much to do with the Italian language – they codified the grammar to preserve the beauty of the sound of the words. “What is life if you don’t have beauty?” questions Sandro.



Sandro Bonaiuto is honored to have the statue placed in the Italian Garden, to be among the many artists of renown. The statue is scheduled to be installed and dedicated in spring of 2012. No doubt it will be a grand event!

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