

ACGA



AMERICAN
COMMUNITY
GARDENING
ASSOCIATION

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“Today, a groundswell of community gardening, backyard gardening, and other greening activities is permeating the fabric of urban life. Community gardening not only produces healthy food close to home, but also cultivates community among neighbors. The growing sense of community fostered by these modern-day commons empowers neighborhood residents and strengthens their social, physical, and mental health. The increasingly widespread network of grassroots gardeners working together contributes to the building of a more democratic society.” Karl Linn (1923-2005)*

Dear Community Gardener,

If you’ve ever known the joy of working in a community garden and seen an eyesore of a vacant lot turned into an urban oasis full of fresh produce and flowers, you know firsthand what a treasure a community garden is. But even if you aren’t directly involved in a community garden, chances are the quality of life in your city or town is higher because of the efforts of community gardeners.

Multiple studies in recent years have clearly demonstrated the benefits of community gardens: they increase urban green space, provide fresh produce, give children a constructive activity, enhance property values, build connections between diverse neighbors, and even reduce crime.

That’s why we invite you to become a member or renew your membership in the American Community Gardening Association. With membership, you support an activity that improves so many lives in so many different ways. You also gain access to a wide range of practical gardening and community organizing information, as well as great educational materials to help get the next generation excited about gardening. ACGA sponsors and manages Garden Mosaics and Rebel Tomato, two youth and community-based curricula for young gardeners and teachers.

The American Community Gardening Association is funded entirely through memberships, donations, and grants. We operate with a minimal staff and an active volunteer board to provide the maximum for our members. We link resources, information, and people for the advancement of community gardening and greening, and advocate on your behalf for a secure future, lush by your own hands.

www.communitygarden.org

The American Community Gardening Association offers its members an *amazing* array of resources and benefits that include:

- "The Community Gardener" (our newsletter)
- ACGA's monthly electronic news briefs (providing valuable, up-to-date information on grants available, advocacy efforts, workshop schedules, book reviews, and recent research for the community gardener)
- A year's subscription to *Organic Gardening* magazine by Rodale Press for new members
- An information-packed website – www.communitygarden.org
- Advocacy for your community garden and help with finding funding and grants.

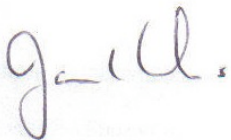
Join Today!

ACGA Membership levels are as follows:

- Basic: \$30**(Basic members receive all benefits listed above and are eligible to vote in ACGA's Board of Directors elections)
- Professional: \$60**(Professional members receive all of the benefits of a basic member, plus receiving a copy of our membership directory)
- Library: \$90**.....(Library members receive the benefits of professional membership and ACGA monographs)
- Organization: \$120** ..(Organizational members receive all of the benefits of a professional member for up to four staff members, plus discounts for up to four Conference attendees)
- Sustaining: \$600**.....(Sustaining members receive all of the benefits of a professional member, conference discounts for up to six attendees and "logo" recognition in our publications.)
- Corporate: \$1,200** ... (Corporate members receive all professional membership benefits, conference discounts for up to ten attendees and "logo" recognition in our publications.)
- Sliding scale: \$15**.....(Sliding Scale members receive all of the benefits of Basic membership at a discount due to their status as "student", "senior citizen", or "low income" individual. Sliding scale memberships are underwritten by the Susan A. Thode memorial fund)

An ACGA membership is an investment with high returns. For a small contribution, you're making it possible for inner-city children to learn how to grow their own vegetables. You're helping communities in impoverished inner-city neighborhoods develop their own green spaces. You're supporting projects that bring neighborhoods together. In other words, you're helping us realize our vision of making our world a healthy, sustainable, and enriched place.

Sincerely,



James Kuhns
ACGA Immediate Past President

*Karl Linn (1923-2005), Berkeley landscape architect, psychologist, and educator who spent the last forty-four years of his life guiding and inspiring the transformation of abandoned vacant lots and drab institutional settings into vibrant community spaces.