



# The Germinator

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Greetings Everyone,*

This is the time of year when I enjoy surveying my gardens every morning for signs of growth and change: a germinating seed peeking through the soil; flower buds opening; vegetable flowers signaling the arrival of a tomato or zucchini; and plump sugar snap peas ready to eat off the vine. I hope all of you find this time as exciting and rewarding as I do.

Our plant auction was a real success this year. Lots Toth did a great job selling them.

Lynn Zocolo, a GOGY member and Mill Creek MetroParks educator, will conduct a tour of Fellows Gardens at our next membership meeting on July 6. I have walked through the gardens many times but never with someone like Lynn to guide me.

Eight new members are in the process of being oriented to the club. I have challenged each of them to find his/her niche in one or more of the committees that are the backbone of our club. For those other members who are still not a member of a committee, I will invite or assign you to join one. Here are the ones that I would like you to consider: Membership, Social and Refreshment, Civic, Special Activities, Horticultural, and Greenhouse/Plant Sales. There are several others; and all are described in our constitution which can be referenced on our website.

Speaking of our website, I hope all of you have viewed it and are using it for essential information about the club. I use the club roster a lot to look up phone numbers, email addresses, etc. Thanks to Clare Neff for her work on the site.

I also want to encourage you to consider writing articles for the *Germinator* or the regional garden club newsletter called *The JAB (Johnny Appleseed Broadcaster)*. If you've got a special interest in a topic, and would like to write an article, contact Dave Campana or Tom Liggett who are both members and editors of the two newsletters.

*Happy Gardening,*

*Tom Strass*



## Meeting Schedule

*We'll meet at Fellows Riverside Gardens with MetroParks for a combined board & membership meeting Wednesday, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 – 6:30pm, followed by a guided tour lead by Educator Lynn Zocolo starting at 7pm. Guests Welcome*

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*At 7pm, Thursday, Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>, our Mahoning Valley Scrappers will play the West Virginia Black Bears at Eastwood Field. Our members and their guests are invited to dinner of burgers, hot dogs, etc. beginning at 5:30pm. We always have a great time at this event so contact Rodney Toth for details and deadlines. By the way, the Scrappers are off to a great start and it's a good time to get on their fan band wagon.*

## 57<sup>th</sup> GOGY Annual Horticulture Show

Sat. & Sun., Aug. 20-21, Fellows Riverside Gardens

Registration and plant prep begins Saturday at 7:30am with judging beginning at 10am. Awards at 1pm, Sunday.

Entries are limited to Vegetables & Annuals.

\$25 prizes for Heaviest Tomato, Largest Zinnia & Youth Section  
*Now is the time to give special pampering to fruits and plants that are potential entries. Be sure to attend our August membership meeting where there will be a tutorial on how to best display exhibits.*





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## CLUB NEWS

### New Members

**Shane Burgaf** – Shane lives in Warren and is owner/operator of Gnome Home & Garden, P.O. Box 769, Warren, OH 44482. His gardening interests include native plants, herbs and perennials. Other activities include computers.

Sponsor: Tom Arens

**William Bruce Neff** – William lives in Canfield and is co-owner of LED3 LLC, 550 W. Main St., Canfield, with wife and sponsor Clare Neff, our 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. He wishes to become a better cultivator of beautiful landscapings. He is a member of the Canfield Historical Society and the Loghurst Farm Museum. Other interests include golf and public service.

**Marilyn Delson** – A Youngstown resident, Marilyn is a book indexer. She wishes to learn as much as possible about horticulture. Other interests include hiking, biking, reading, writing and cooking.

Sponsor: Tom Arens

**Norma Harned** – Norma lives in Cortland and her gardening interests include perennials,, evergreens, design and ornamental trees.

Sponsor: Clare Neff

**Patricia Murphy** – Patricia lives in Poland and is owner/operator of Murphy Vocational Services. She enjoys growing annual and perennial flowers. Her other interests include poetry, travel and wine.

Sponsor: Terry Voland

### July Membership Meeting Location

Our May board and membership meetings may be the last time we hold them at Fellows Riverside Gardens. As we've discussed in previous issues, the large meeting room at the Davis Center has become cost prohibitive and the classroom there where our April and May meetings were held is a bit confined.

While the search goes on for a location that is free or inexpensive and available the first Wednesday evening each month, we will hold our August meetings at a Boardman Park building to be announced.

### Supporting 'Active Day'

Many years ago, our organization built window boxes and amended landscape beds at a Mahoning County Board of Developmental Disabilities satellite facility on Javit Court in Austintown. The facility, now known as ACTIVE DAY, is one of twenty privately owned locations in Ohio alone serving developmentally disabled clients. Its focus is on developing independent living skills, pre-vocational training and career planning, paid employment, community integration and providing transportation.

Except for peanut shells and animal scat – talk about pooping where you eat - that members Tom Arens, Mike Beaudis, Bruce Brungard and Pat Murphy dutifully removed, the window boxes were in excellent condition. After filling them with fresh potting soil, clients Amika and Brendon planted unsold Plant Sale begonias. They



also weeded and planted the front landscape bed. Brandon and Amika promised to keep the plants watered and free of weeds.



### Youngstown War Memorials Planting



As we do every year in preparation for Memorial Day, our members in conjunction with Youngstown CityScape planted geraniums, begonias, sedum, and salvia around the city's Civil War Memorial down-

town and the Smokey Hollow WWII, Korean and Viet Nam Wars Memorial.

CityScape participants were Jack Moss, Andrew



Lane, Ben Morgan and Clara Wick, with help from GOGY members Tom Arens, Dave Campana and Bob Schulick .



# The Germinator

## GOGY Plant Auction

Nobody seemed to notice the raging storm outside Boardman Park's Lariccia Building, the venue for our annual Plant Auction, because everyone inside was having a great, fun time. The event is always open to the public, and many non-members attended and potential new members attended.



Our members were also there in force, many with their significant others who are often our most active bidders. Prime examples are Bruce Brungard's wife Debbie and Vince Camp's wife Donna. We're sure the guys spent the next couple of days installing their wives purchases while getting instruction on where to put them.

After the plants were unloaded and arranged by category, we lined up to sample the covered dishes and desserts brought by participants. While a full belly



wasn't needed to have a good time at this event, sated appetites didn't hurt. And then the action started.

When an organization has a number of signature events, especially when guests are present, a front man with enthusiasm and a sense of humor is a must. In addition to everything else he does for our club, Rodney Toth serves as our auctioneer. Nobody could do it



better. Aply assisted by Dave Causer and Vince Camp, he kept the action brisk and moving along.

Almost everyone brought something but Mike Banks, Linda Biggs and Josh Heard brought vehicle loads of flora. As she did last year, Linda brought bags of 3-year-composted horse manure that brought vigorous bidding action. We won't get into an extended list of what was sold but there were other unusual items. 'Balloon flower'?

Except for a couple of ugly ducklings, everything sold and anyone who made a winning bid walked out with an obscene bargain. Before leaving, however, the piper (GOGY Treasurer Terry Voland) had to be paid. We doubt anyone complained.



## Leonard Kirtz Pizza Party

Our relationship with the Leonard Kirtz School for the Developmentally Disabled goes back many years. After a hiatus of several years, our organization was again allowed access to its excellent greenhouse where we grew annuals for this year's Plant Sale. We again hosted a pizza party there for the students. Socializing with the students gives us appreciation for the challenges they face and the dedication of teachers and staff.



Seated l-r: Barb Arquilla, Mannie (student), Rodney Toth, Tom Arens, Cameron (student), Bruce Brungard.

Standing l-r: Gina Symsec (principal) & Margarita (teacher).

## TGOA National Conference

The Gardeners of America, our national umbrella organization, will be holding its annual conference on Friday thru Saturday, Sept. 22-23 at the OSU Agricultural Technical Institute in Wooster, OH. Schedule:

Friday – Registration at 3pm, officer's meeting, seminars & welcoming BBQ dinner.

Saturday – membership & regional meetings, seminars, tours and evening banquet.

Special hotel rate at Comfort Suites (\$129) by 8-15. Email will be sent soon with cost & seminar details



# The Germinator

## 'The Regenerative Garden'

We recently checked out the above titled book (\$24.99) from the Library of Youngstown & Mahoning County written by Stephanie Rose, sub-titled '80 Practical Projects for Creating a Self-Sustaining Garden Ecosystem'.

Chapter 1 deals with preparing and amending soil using compost, mulch, nutrient fixing plants and various animal manures. Most manures require varying degrees of composting. Chicken manure is best for flowers and vegetables, is high in nitrogen and weed seeds have been destroyed when digested. Cow patties are easily composted and great for acid-loving plants. Horse droppings require advanced composting but are rich in organic matter. Top dress plants with sheep manure. Mushroom manure is good for ornamentals, trees, shrubs and plants with high hydration needs.

Chapter 2 covers water efficiency by collecting all the water a garden needs from rainfall and recycling. Included are using rain barrels, olla catchment systems, building a rain garden and/or a wicking bed, and self watering systems.

Chapter 3 discusses building a mini ecosystem with native and local plants that is not only attractive and educational but provides food and shelter for pollinators and other wildlife. Included is a guide to mixing mutually beneficial plants. Example: Tomatoes do well with basil, borage, calendula, marigold and nasturtium.

Chapter 4 covers adjusting to climate changes that have made 30 year record keeping averages obsolete. This includes plant selection and protecting them from extreme weather events. Capturing, storing and naturally producing energy is also highlighted. Example: Using a clear umbrella as a mini greenhouse.



Chapter 5 deals with the ecological ethics involved in reducing waste and recycling by repurposing materials that would normally be thrown away. Examples include composting newspaper and cardboard, or using them as soil building materials or mulch.

Chapter 6 encourages gardeners to expand their avocation to include and influence a wider community. This can include volunteering at existing public or institutional garden, organizing a neighborhood green space on an abandoned property, or creating a horticulture display on one's own property that inspires others to do the same.

The book's forward states, 'Imagine a garden space that invites pollinators, restores soil, creates healthy eco-systems rich with diversity and connects the community – that's regenerative gardening!'

## Independence Day Thoughts

### In Congress, July 4, 1776

*The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America, When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them,...*

*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. – That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,--That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on the Right of the People to alter or abolish it, and institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness...*

*I believe in America because we have great dreams, and because we have the opportunity to make those dreams come true."*

Wendell L. Wilkie

*I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him.*

Abraham Lincoln

*Our country is not the only thing to which we owe our allegiance. It is also owed to justice and to humanity. Patriotism consists not in waving the flag, but in striving that our country shall be righteous as well as strong.*

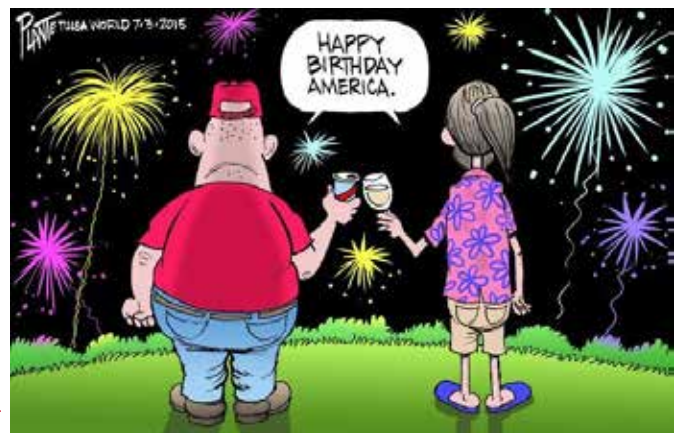
James Bryce

*As Mankind becomes more liberal, they will be more apt to allow that all those who conduct themselves as worthy members of the community are equally entitled to the protections of civil government. I hope ever to see America among the foremost nations of justice and liberality.*

George Washington

*When you're born, you get a ticket to the freak show. When you're born in America, you get a front row seat.*

George Carlin





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Thank you to the Gardeners of Greater Youngstown's Friends for their Civic Fund donations. Members are urged to give them a visit.

**Ace Hardware Canfield**  
413 E. Main St.  
Canfield, Ohio 44406  
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www.theamishmarket.net

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Canfield, Ohio 44406  
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info@bairdbrothers.com

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Transfer, Pennsylvania 16154  
724-962-1230  
www.djsgreenhouse.com

**Elliot's Garden Center**  
1283 W. Western Reserve Rd.  
Youngstown, Ohio 44514  
330-758-8889

**Garden Artisans**  
451 Defense Highway, Ste. A  
Annapolis, Md. 21401  
www.gardenartisans.com

**Greenstar Cooperative**  
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Greenford, Ohio 44422  
800-423-3609

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Youngstown, Ohio 44509

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Boardman, Ohio  
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**Parks Garden Center**  
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330-533-7278  
parksgardencenter@aol.com

**Paw Paw Everlast Label Co.**  
P.O. Box 93-C  
Paw Paw, Michigan 49079  
www.everlastlabel.com

**Petitti Garden Center**  
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Boardman, Ohio 44512  
330-788-0733  
www.petittigardencenter.com

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MGCY Member  
3736 Boardman-Canfield Rd.  
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**Youngstown Cityscape**  
15 Central Square, 2nd Floor  
Youngstown, Ohio 44503  
330-742-4040

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Gardeners of Greater Youngstown  
c/o Newsletter Editor  
P.O. Box 612 • North Jackson, OH 44451  
[www. GG-YO.org](http://www.GG-YO.org)



## calendar of events



- July 6 .....Board/Membership Meeting .....5:30PM .....Fellows’ Riverside Gardens
- July 6 .....Tour of the Gardens ..... 7:00PM ..... Fellows’ Riverside Gardens
- Aug 3 .... Board Meeting ..... 5:30PM ..... Boardman Park
- Aug 3 .... Membership Meeting ..... 5:30PM ..... Boardman Park
- Aug 4 .... Scrappers Picnic & Game .... 5:30PM ..... Eastwood Field, Niles, Oh
- Aug 20 ...Horticulture Show ..... 7:30AM ..... Fellows Riverside Gardens
- Aug 21 ...Horticulture Show Awards ... 1:00PM .....Fellows Riverside Gardens
- Sept 22-23 .....TGOA National Conference .....Wooster, OH

## Please Join Us!

The purpose of the Gardeners of Greater Youngstown is to create a better understanding of gardening and to encourage and promote the beautification of our community. In order to meet this endeavor, several civic projects are completed each year.

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the D. D. Davis Center at Fellows Riverside Garden. Members receive a monthly newsletter, “The Germinator,” which has timely gardening hints, club news and other local and regional horticultural events. Members also become members of The Gardeners of America.

Membership is open to residents of the Mahoning Valley and surrounding communities with an interest in gardening.

To join, contact us at: Gardeners of Greater Youngstown  
% Membership Committee P.O. Box 612  
North Jackson, OH 44451  
or on our website at [www.gg-yo.org](http://www.gg-yo.org)



## THE GOGY 2022 OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Tom Arens  
[mansell713@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mansell713@sbcglobal.net) • 330-402-2700

### 1st VICE PRESIDENT

Clare Neff  
[clare\\_neff@mac.com](mailto:clare_neff@mac.com) • 330-503-6988

### 2nd VICE PRESIDENT

John Schinker  
[johnschinker@gmail.com](mailto:johnschinker@gmail.com) • 330-518-4384

### TREASURER

Terry Volland  
[voskater@aol.com](mailto:voskater@aol.com) • 330-881-8467

### RECORDING SECRETARY

Tom McGiffin  
[tsmcgiffin@gmail.com](mailto:tsmcgiffin@gmail.com) • (330)501-9786

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Michael Banks  
330-707-9089 (H) • 330-565-0592 (C)  
[mcbankspaint@yahoo.com](mailto:mcbankspaint@yahoo.com)

### GERMINATOR STAFF

David Campana, Editor  
[mgcygerminator@gmail.com](mailto:mgcygerminator@gmail.com)  
Clare Neff, layout