

The Germinator

July 2017



PUBLISHED BY THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO
86 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE MAHONING VALLEY AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

President's Message - July

As you know, we had the annual plant sale. To my understanding, it was one of the best that we have had in several years. Thank you to everyone that was able to help make it a success at every stage! We also had our Plant Auction/Pot Luck Dinner. I know that the weather has been unpredictable and this is a busy time of the year for everyone, so thank you to those that were able to attend. Maybe next year, the weather will cooperate a little more so that more people are able to join in the fun and good food.

Summer is going by fast and I am already seeing advertisements for the Canfield Fair in the paper and on the news. As you know, we have a table each year at the Canfield Fair, so please start thinking about whether you will be able to help us out. The table is out of the hot summer sun!

I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe 4th of July as well. We also have the convention coming up in July. If you have any interest in going, it is in Cleveland and you are able to go for one day or several days. It is completely up to you, so think about whether you might enjoy going.

We are going to have a steak fry on August 2nd at Larry Ducks, so please mark your calendar for some fun and delicious food! We will probably have a sign-up sheet at the July 5th meeting so that we know how much food to prepare. I hope to see as many of you as possible there.

Lastly, keep in mind about the horticultural show at Fellows. We hope to have a good showing.

Thanks,

Dennis

TGOA/MGCA NATIONAL CONVENTION

July 19 - 21 (Optional Tours July 22) , Cleveland, OH

Join National President John Schinker and other MGCY members who have helped organize 'The Garden Scene in 2017'.

See Page 4 for convention details

Mens Garden Club Horticulture Show

Fellows Riverside Gardens Davis Center

Show: Saturday, Aug. 26 Awards: Sunday, Aug. 27

Bring your best specimens and join the fun. \$25 awards for heaviest tomato & largest zinnia. Schedules available at July meeting.



Membership Meeting

7 pm, Wednesday, July 5

MetroParks Davis Center

Speaker: Dennis Toth

Subject: *Building Bird Houses*

- Guests Welcome -

Board Meeting

6:30pm, Wednesday, July 12

Austintown Public Library

South Raccoon Rd.

-All Members Welcome-

MetroParks Events

Golf Shop Sale.....	1-4
Morning Relax, Renew	1,2,16,23
Traveling Naturalist.....	2
Live! At The Morley.....	5,12,19,27
Yellow Creek Concerts.....	6,13,21
Family Tours.....	6,13,20,27
Family Fun Fridays.....	7,14,21,28
Time Traipse.....	8
Cohasset Nostalgia Tour.....	9,13,18,23
Mindfulness Course.....	11,18
Birding The Sanctuary	15
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Wonders Of Air Plants.....	22
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Club News

WWW.MGCY.ORG

82 Members • 2 Associates

Planting War & Police Memorials

As far back as anyone can remember, the Mens Garden Club of Youngstown has cleaned up the beds and planted annual flowers at the Civil War Memorial on Youngstown's Central Square. When memorials were



established Korean War Vets on Rayen Ave. and area Law Enforcement Officers, our organization stepped up adding them to list.

Those taking part in this public service endeavor



were members Dave Williams, Paul Shanabarger, Bob Schulick, John Schinker, Jack Moss, John Fox, Dave Campana, Mike Banks and Tom Arens; Yvonne Fayard, Sharon Letson and Andrew Lane from the Youngstown Street Scape, and Kevin Wegendt from Mill Creek MetroParks. After lunching at the MVR in Smokey Hollow, Schinker, Fox and Williams weeded and tilled the therapy beds at Children's Hospital.

Plant Sale Raffle Winners

Those who took a chance and won the beautifully planted door prizes during our Spring Plant Sale were: Bill Wayland, Debra Malcolm and Debbie Gonda.



Helping our Valley to Grow Since 1930

Plant Auction/Pot Luck Dinner

It's a combination of factors rather than one single thing that makes the auction a favorite among members. We had many diverse and interesting plants, and it didn't hurt to have many wives in attendance to lighten the mood with their laughter and enthusiastic bidding.



Those reasons not withstanding, one feature that stands out is Rodney Toth's abilities as an emcee and auctioneer. His ability to combine knowledge with gusto and humor turns a run-of-the-mill club fundraiser



into a party. As Carly Simon sang in the James Bond movie, *The Spy Who Loved Me*:

*Nobody does it better, makes me feel sad for the rest.
Nobody does it half as good, Baby, you're the best.*

Members should make a resolution that if their busy schedules prohibit them from attending club functions, the one they can't afford to miss is the Plant Auction.

MASCO Pizza Party

Since our club began growing Spring Plant Sale plants at the Mahoning County Developmental Disabilities MASCO Workshop greenhouse, we have hosted a party for the clients, each of whom takes home



a plant after filling up on pizza.

Baseball, Apple Pie & Pot

This month we celebrate the 241st anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Since many of our founding fathers were farmers who grew hemp, and since many states including Ohio have or are considering some form of legalization of marijuana, we feel a short discussion of hemp's (marijuana's) history in this country should be explored.

Hemp, *cannabis sativa*, is a plant first domesticated in Asia thousands of years ago. At the time of the American Revolution it was a versatile crop on which a nation's security could depend, mainly due to its use in nautical rope, fabrics and paper. In 1797, the USS Constitution required 50 tons of rope hemp. The antagonism between European nations at the time and the fact that most hemp was grown in Eastern Europe encouraged the British Empire to demand American colonist farmers grow and export hemp to the Crown.

America's independence resulted in fabric imports from England being cut off, and hemp and flax cloth became important alternatives. Both George Washington and Thomas Jefferson grew hemp. Washington is quoted as writing, "Make the most of Indian hemp seed and grow it everywhere". As reported, several U.S presidents have admitted smoking pot including Bill Clinton ("Didn't inhale"), George W. Bush and Barack Obama ("Inhaled. That was the point").



Betsy Ross's prototype American flag was made of hemp. The paper used for the Declaration of Independence was made of hemp fibers. Durable clothing like early blue jeans worn by miners was hemp based as was the fabric for covered wagons. While cotton was being grown in the U.S., high costs due to labor intensiveness in processing made it less popular until the cotton gin was invented.

Cannabis was used as a medical ingredient in other countries for thousands of years, and appeared in U.S. patent medicines in the late 1800's. As we learned from Cassie Nespor's 'Past Medical Quackery' presentation at our April membership meeting, other 'miracle' elixir ingredients included cocaine, heroin and alcohol. Marijuana began being labeled as 'poison' in some states as early as 1906 and, by the mid-1930's, became regulated under the Uniform State Narcotic Drug Act.

As early as the mid-1800's, cannabis was listed as a "fashionable narcotic" and, by the late 19th century, oriental-style hashish (a concentrated form of marijuana) parlors were flourishing alongside opium dens in every

major city on the east coast - 500 alone in New York City. In 1910, the end of the Mexican Revolution saw a large influx of immigrants in southwestern states of peoples who had been using the drug for centuries. Cannabis was cheaper than alcohol and, with the advent of Prohibition, increased in popularity.

The Great Depression brought about tensions between immigrants and European Americans over jobs resulting in some draconian laws being passed. In 1975, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that it was "not cruel or unusual for Ohio to sentence someone to 20 years for having ... cannabis". Since then, while marijuana is still listed as a Schedule I drug under federal law on par with heroin and crack cocaine, baby boomers coming of age and influence brought about a decriminalization trend where possession of small amounts is a minor misdemeanor or, in some states, legal for medical and/or recreational use.

A clarification between hemp, *Cannabis sativa*, and marijuana, *Cannabis sativa indica*, is probably overdue. The difference between the two lies in the amount of the psychoactive chemical, *tetrahydrocannabinol* (THC), each contains. Hemp contains about .3% THC while marijuana has up to 25%. Another chemical contained in both plants is *cannabidiol* (CBD), a substance that has been found to significantly reduce seizures and pain associated with some medical conditions and nausea associated with chemotherapy. Botanist have bred plants that have very low levels of THC and elevated levels of CBD - thus the medical marijuana soon to be legally available in Ohio.

In 1978, a California man sued the federal government for arresting him for using cannabis to treat his glaucoma. While a judge ruled that he must be supplied with the drug, President George W. Bush later discontinued the program when the man tried to extend the program to HIV/AIDS patients to treat pain, nausea and lack of appetite. However, the government still shipped cannabis to a man suffering from bone tumors. Medical marijuana remains a controversial issue being 'hashed' out especially during political campaigns.

About 20 years ago, scientists discovered a system in the brain that responds to 60 cannabis chemicals that play a role in many bodily functions including the heart along with the digestive, endocrine, immune, nervous and reproductive systems. While a great deal of study still remains to be done, research on MS patients found that the drug helped manage pain and reduce muscle spasms. There are also indications that it works as an appetite stimulant for AIDS patients and those undergoing chemotherapy. It is also being tested as an alternative drug for brain disorders such as schizophrenia and Tourettes syndrome.

TGOA/MGCA National Convention, July 18 - 21

Hosted by *Gardeners of Greater Cleveland,*
Gardeners of Greater Akron & Mens Garden Club of Youngstown

Where: Cleveland Airport Marriot (CAM), 4277 W. 150th St., Cleveland, 44135, 216-252-5333. Hotel is newly refurbished with large meeting space, bar and restaurant. Close to 'Kamm's Corners' restaurants and shops. 2016 Republican National Convention held at CAM. Rooms are \$94/night (well below government rate) for whole stay. Each room has Wi-Fi. There will also be a hospitality room. Underground parking for hotel guests & free parking for attendees.

Registration: Tuesday at CAM front desk & Wednesday by Great Lakes Ballroom (1st floor). You will receive a list of local restaurants, shops and area map.

Meals: In order to keep the cost of the convention down, attendees are on their own for breakfast. Lunch & Dinner will be provided. CAM has an excellent restaurant. There is a Denny's next door, and several other fast food restaurants 5 minutes away. Ask CAM desk about full service restaurants nearby. A coffee maker and mini-fridge is in each room.

Other Cleveland Attractions: Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Indians play Blue Jays Friday & Saturday, and shopping at nearby Crocker Park.

Price: If application & payment made: by Mar. 1 - \$240; by June 1 - \$260; afterward - \$290. Cancel: \$50 after June 1.

Schedule of Events:

Tuesday, July 18: Executive Board Meeting in president's suite. Registration in lobby by front desk.

Wednesday, July 19: Morning - National Directors and E & I meetings. Tours of CAM Kitchen and Hotel Culinary Garden. There will be a horticulture show with a limited number of entries per person due to limited space.

Noon - Lunch in Great Lakes Ballroom hosted by Pres. John Schinker and Past Pres. Tom Davis. Door prizes.

Afternoon - First & Second Seminar sets. Sign up early to get choice. Seating limited.

Thursday, July 20: Tour Day! University Circle including Cleveland Botanical Garden (save \$11 with American Horticultural Society or reciprocal membership card with your registration), and Rockefeller Greenhouse. Also Lakeview Cemetery for memorial service, graves of famous people, and outstanding horticulture and arboriculture collections. Also Eton Square for horticulture displays, shopping & snacks. Then dinner and door prizes at hotel.

Friday, July 21: Morning - Seminars. General membership meeting followed by lunch & door prizes. Afternoon - Seminars. Central Great Lakes Region meeting. Evening - President's Reception Dinner w/cash bar. Awards, installation of officers and after dinner speaker.

Saturday, July 22: Tours for CGLR members (different from Thursday tour). Limited bus seating so sign up early.

Seminars

Horticulture Show Basics - Peggy Moody - Wed., 1pm - 2:15pm & 2:30pm - 3:45pm. Want to be a show judge or learn how to best present show entries? Peggy is a master level judge & chairs a flower show school.

Gardening & Garden Center Trends - Jeff Griff - Wed. 1pm - 2:15pm & 2:30 - 3:45pm. Jeff's president of a large greenhouse, landscape, florist and garden center.

Hydrangeas - Eric Barrett - Wed., 1pm - 2:15pm & 2:30 - 3:45pm. Since transferring to the Mahoning County OSU Extension a few years ago, Eric has shown a wide range of horticulture knowledge & expertly imparts it in lectures.

Plant Nutrition & Lighting - Fri., Mark Occhionero - 10:45am - 11:45am. Mark is pres./owner of Top Garden Products and can show how to grow indoors using hydroponics and the right lighting.

What's In A Name - Fri., Ellen Speicher - 10:45am - 11:45am & 1:30pm - 2:30pm. Ellen, former Fellows Riverside Gardens asst. horticulture director & director of its Master Gardener program.

Dragonflies - Judy Semroc - Fri., 10:45am - 11:45am & 2:30pm - 3:30pm. Co-author of a book on N.E Ohio dragonflies & damselflies, Judy is a featured speaker at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Photography - Richard States - Fri., 1:30pm - 2:30pm & 2:30pm - 3:30pm. Want to take horticulture pics suitable for framing? Learn from Photo Competition Sweepstakes winner many years running.

Pollinators - Denise Elsworth - Fri., 1:30pm - 2:30pm. Denise is Director of the Honey Bee and Native Pollinator Education Program, Ohio State University.

Thank you to the MGCY Friends for their Civic Fund donations.

Members are urged to give them a visit.

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The Germinator



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Tuesday, July 4, 2017

calendar of events



July 5.....	General Meeting.....	FRG.....	7:00 pm
July 12.....	Board Meeting.....	Austintown Public Library.....	6:30 pm
July 19-21.....	TGOA/MGCA National Conference.....	Cleveland Airport Marriott.....	TBA
July 21.....	CGL Regional Meeting.....	Cleveland Airport Marriott.....	TBA
Aug 2.....	Steak Fry/General Meeting ...	Larry Duck's.....	6:00/7:00 pm
Aug 9.....	Board Meeting.....	Austintown Public Library.....	6:30 pm
Aug 24.....	Scrappers Outing.....	Eastwood Field.....	TBA
Aug. 26-27.....	MGCY Horticulture Show	FRG.....	TBA
Aug. 30-Sept. 4.....	Canfield Fair.....	Canfield Fairgrounds.....	9:00 am - 9:00 pm
Sept 6.....	General Meeting.....	FRG.....	7:00 pm
Sept 13.....	Board Meeting.....	Austintown Public Library.....	6:30 pm
Oct 4.....	General Meeting.....	FRG.....	7:00 pm
Oct 11.....	Board Meeting.....	Austintown Public Library.....	6:30 pm
TBA.....	Fall Breakfast.....	FRG.....	9:00 am
TBA.....	CGLG Meeting.....	Kingwood Gardens, Mansfield, OH.....	10:00 am
Nov 1.....	General Meeting.....	FRG.....	7:00 pm
Nov 8.....	Board Meeting.....	Austintown Public Library.....	6:30 pm
Dec 6.....	Board Meeting.....	Austintown Public Library.....	6:30 pm
Dec 13.....	Christmas Dinner.....	A La Cart in Canfield, Ohio.....	6:00 pm

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