

The Germinator



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



President's Message - March

As we all know Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow and he is predicting six more weeks of winter. Although I am not sure what kind of forecaster he really is as I look at the seven-day forecast it appears that maybe we will get lucky with an early spring. My own rose bush already has some green leaves. The snow and sunshine may be beautiful to look at, but there is a thought in the back of our minds of the blooming flowers and trees of spring.

We all yearn for the warmth of the sun and the songs of the birds. Spring is always a peaceful time of year in my mind, as a time of growth and the seasons to come. I know for myself, it will be nice to sit on the porch or deck and relax just admiring the work done as the fruits of our labor begin to sprout. That satisfaction is a way off though...

For now, it is still winter, so we all should be thinking still on what we want to plant this spring. I know this early on it still seems like it will be a long time before we plant. However, that time always goes so fast! So, I encourage all of you to use this time wisely to plan and order your seeds for the season ahead.

Remember to think spring!

Thanks,
Dennis

TGOA/MGCA NATIONAL CONVENTION

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

Sponsored by Mens Garden Club of Youngstown, Gardeners of Greater Akron and Gardeners of Greater Cleveland

15 Horticulture Presentations, Tours, Awards & Banquet

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



if you're
kissin'...
I'm Irish

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Membership Meeting

7pm, Wednesday, Mar. 1
Fellows Riverside Gardens

Speaker: **Mandy Smith**

Subject: **Birds & Plants**

- Guests Welcome -



Board Meeting

6:30pm, Wednesday, Mar. 8
Austintown Public Library

South Raccoon Rd.

-All Members Welcome-

MetroParks Events

Jewels of Winter	1 thru 12
Syrup: Sap to Tap	4
Metromutts Hike	5,18
Swing Dance Class	7,14,21
Spring Clinic & Trade Show	8
Children's Nature Hour	9
Body Energy Centers Course	11
Outstanding Owls	11
1st Spring Wildflower II	12
St. Pat's Golf Sale	14 thru 17
Birding the Sanctuary	18
Garden Inspiration Walk	18
Older Wiser Limber Seniors	20
Woodpeckers	26
Polka Dance Class	28
Botanical Mornings	31

Horticulture events, nature walks & hikes, holiday celebrations, t'ai chi, yoga, health & fitness ,kayaking, children's activities, golf & more.

www.millcreekmetroparks.org



May the wind at your back not be the result of the corned beef and cabbage you ate for lunch!

Club News

WWW.MGCY.ORG

84 Members • 2 Associates

OSU Extension Honors Member

At the recent Ohio State University Extension's Annual Conference, held Dec. 7 in Columbus, our own Hugh Earnhart received the 'Friend of Extension' award. Hugh is a long-time Extension Advisory Committee member, a Master Gardener Volunteer and Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist. He devotes much of his time to OSU Extension and the Mahoning County Ext. office.

The Friend of Extension award is the highest recognition that can be presented by Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) to a non-Extension person, organization or business, and is designed to recognize truly outstanding support and involvement in Extension efforts.

Congratulations

Home & Garden Show

Our club will again have an information booth at the Canfield Fairgrounds Home and Garden show to be held April 7-9. Publicity Chairman Bruce Brungard will have signup sheets at the March and April membership meetings, or contact him at bgbhhi@live.com, or call 330-793-1307. Sign up early to get a slot that coincides with your schedule. Bruce will also need help with setup and tear down.

Greenhouse Needs Volunteers

While nothing except garlic and daffodils may be emerging outside, there is a lot going on at the Bev Rd. greenhouse. In preparation for our Plant Sale in May, members are now filling flats with annual sprouts and beginning to water them daily. Greenhouse and Plant Sale Chairman John Schinker will be asking for volunteers and it is the duty of every member to do what he can to ensure our club's primary activity funding source is a success.

Scrappers Outing Date Set



Mark Thursday, Aug. 24, in your TGCA/MGCA calendars for some great baseball fun with our Mahoning Valley Scrappers. You'll get to see future stars like alumni Carlos

Santana, Francisco Lindor and Andrew Miller to name just a few. See Rodney Toth to reserve seats for you and your guests. Price is tentatively \$14 per person.

Helping our Valley to Grow Since 1930

Rodney Knows Seeds

As anyone who has enjoyed attending Rodney and Kay Toth's Labor Day Weekend Open Yard will attest, there are few area gardeners who can hold a candle to him when it comes to seed selection. His array of strikingly beautiful and unusual plants has awed visitors and inspired visiting gardeners for two decades. So it was a treat for February membership meeting attendees when he shared how he picks what plants he wants to grow during a given season and where he gets the seeds.

Rodney began with a bit of trivia - the first garden club in the U.S was the Ladies Garden Club of Athens, GA. As a side note, it is said that one of the reasons our own club was formed 87 years ago was to belie the image of vegetable and flower gardening as primarily a women's activity. He then rated several seed companies listing their good points and downsides - expensive (Parks), or offering only their own brand (Burpee).

One organization named good old *Asclepia tuberosa* as the 2017 Perennial Plant of the Year. Better known as orange milkweed or butterflyweed, a good source of seed might be our own Paul Shanabarger who may still have some left.



Other award winners are: *Okra Candle Fire*, edible winner; *Celosia Asian Garden*, ornamental from seed winner; and *Prism Hybrid Kale*, ornamental.

There are award winning plants that are unavailable to the general public and only in to greenhouses as seedlings. But you can easily buy them during our Spring Plant Sale. They include National Plant of the Year, All-American Selections' *Supertunia Vista Bubblegum*. Our sale will also have *Supertunia Raspberry Black* and *Supertunia Bordeaux*.



New Germinator Email Address

Due to a seemingly uncorrectable glitch with the Yahoo email system, we have been forced change our address to mncygerminator@gmail.com. The change will be in the new Membership Directory, and in this and future newsletter issues.



Penn State Extension Spring Garden Symposium Going Wild

On April 1, 8:30am - 3:30pm, the Extension will host a seminar examining the interconnected relationship and mutual dependence of plants, birds, woodlands and wildflowers throughout the seasons. Attendees will also learn more about plant propagation than they probably knew to ask.

The symposium will be held at the Northminster Presbyterian Church, 2434 Wilmington Rd., New Castle, PA, 16105. For more information or to register, call 724-774-3003. Registration deadline is March 22.

OSU Master Gardener Volunteers

Classes begin March 14th for the Ohio State Univ. Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program to be held at the extension offices in Canfield. Volunteers assist with educational services including: Conducting plant clinics; gardening activities for children, senior citizens or disabled persons; beautifying the community; developing community or demonstration gardens; and other activities.

Classes are on each Tuesday, from 9am to 3pm, and run until May 9th. For more information go to mahoning.osu.edu, or osu.edu/directmarketing, or call 330-533-5538.

Tips On Purchasing Firewood

We may be a bit late in passing this along, but the Ohio Department of Agriculture issued the following information in a November news release to ensure you get what you pay for when buying firewood, and to also advise what the current laws are in that regard.

1. Non-packaged firewood must be sold by the cord or fractions thereof. Stacked, a cord is 8 ft. long, 4 ft wide and 4 ft. tall, or 128 sq. ft.
2. If sold in bulk, firewood must be purchased in ton measurements, weighed on a certified scale.
3. If advertised as a certain type of wood, the load must be at least 90% of that species.
4. It is best to buy local and burn local as invasive



species like gypsy moths and Asian longhorn beetles in some form may be present. Pictured here are the moth nest and adult, and longhorn beetle adult.

We believe Ohio law still prohibits moving firewood across county lines. While the emerald ash borer is well established throughout Ohio, isolated stands may have withstood the invasion and may someday become the source of resistant ash tree species. And there should be plenty of dead ash nearby to stock up on firewood.

Any questions or concerns involving firewood sales, or if the seller will not correct an issue, should be forwarded to the Ohio Dept. of Agriculture's Division of Weights and Measures, 614-728-6290, or contact your county auditor's office.

Areas across Ohio are slated to receive gypsy moth aerial treatments by the Dept. of Agriculture this spring. Go to agri.ohio.gov/divs/gypsy/gypsy-index.aspx for maps of treatment areas and gypsy moth info.

Grouping Vegetables in Containers

Two groups of vegetables that can be planted in containers are salad plants and root plants. Gardeners should group together plants that benefit each other by preventing insect infestation and encouraging growth.

A group of salad vegetables that can be grown together includes a tomato plant, surrounded by lettuce, spinach, strawberries and carrots. The roots will not conflict with one another. Adding sage and rosemary



will deter insects.

Root vegetables such as beets, carrots, onions and turnips can be planted together. Growing lettuce on the surface of the soil will retain moisture, and adding savory increases the onion crop.

These same recommendations also apply when growing in raised beds. Remember that soil should not be of a primarily fine, easily compressed variety like peat moss. The larger the container the better. It should have drain holes in the bottom to prevent waterlogging during heavy rains. Daily watering will probably be necessary. Containers are available with a water reservoir beneath but should have an on/off spigot. Eight hours of direct sunlight is necessary especially for tomatoes *Source: Reference.com sourced through garden.com.*



**THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF TGOA/MGCA JULY 18 – 21, 2017
THE SUMMER CONFERENCE FOR THE CENTRAL GREAT LAKES GARDENERS
WILL FOLLOW ON JULY 22**

**THE CLEVELAND AIRPORT MARRIOTT HOTEL
HOSTED BY THE GARDENERS OF GREATER AKRON,
THE GARDENERS OF GREATER CLEVELAND AND
THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF YOUNGSTOWN, OH**

INFORMATION ABOUT THE CONVENTION, TOURS AND THE HOTEL

1. **Where is the hotel?** The Cleveland Airport Marriott (CAM) is located at 4277 W. 150th St. Cleveland, OH 44135. It is at the intersection of W. 150th St. and I-71. Cleveland Hopkins airport is about 5 miles away and there is a free hotel shuttle to and from the airport. The CAM is convenient to public transportation to downtown Cleveland – about 15 minutes away. The CAM phone: 216-252-5333.
2. **Why this hotel?** The CAM is the best hotel close to the airport and I-71. Members of the sponsoring clubs can get to it easily. It is a Marriott owned hotel – not a franchise. They have 368 newly refurbished guest rooms, 15,500 sq. ft. of meeting space, a bar and restaurant on site, and they are close to “Kamm’s Corners” restaurants and shops. They were a host hotel for the 2016 Republican National Convention. The food is excellent!
3. **When we get there, where do we register?** – On Tuesday, July 18, registration will be by the CAM front desk. You will also get a list of shops and restaurants and a local map. On Wednesday, July 19, registration will be by the meeting and dining rooms.
4. **What’s the convention program?** Here’s the first draft of the 2017 convention program. We will add to it and improve it as time goes on:
 - **Tuesday, July 18;** Executive Board Meeting in the President’s suite. Registration in the lobby by the front desk. Dinner on your own.
 - **Wednesday morning, July 19;** Registration by the Great Lakes Ballroom, 1st floor. E&I and National Directors Meetings held. **New Tours!** CAM Kitchen and Hotel Culinary Garden tours for those not in meetings. **New Event!** There will be a judged Horticulture Show for the first time at a National Convention. The Show Schedule will be issued later. Due to space concerns the number of entries per person will be limited.
 - **Wednesday Noon, July 19;** Lunch in the Great Lakes Ballroom. Welcome to the Convention and to Cleveland by John Schinker and Tom Davis. Door prizes.
 - **Wednesday Afternoon, July 19;** First and second set of seminars in the County Break out rooms. Sign up early for the best choice!
 - **Wednesday Evening, July 19;** Dinner in the Great Lakes Ballroom. Photo Contest and Horticulture Show winners announced. Door prizes.
 - **Thursday, July 20;** Tour Day! We will see some of the main features of Cleveland, visit University Circle, see the Cleveland Botanical Garden (save \$11 with your AHS or reciprocal membership card with your registration), stop at the Rockefeller (yes, that Rockefeller) Greenhouse. There will be a box lunch. Tour Lakeview Cemetery and hold a memorial service



in the beautiful Wade Chapel with a huge Tiffany Window, see President Garfield's tomb, see famous Clevelanders' graves (Rockefeller, Elliot Ness, Roy Chapman, Marcus Hanna, Charles Brush and Carl Stokes), and the cemetery's outstanding horticulture and arboriculture collection. Then we're on to Eton Square for wonderful horticulture displays, great shopping (everything from Tiffany's to Trader Joe's) and tasty snack options. Dinner and door prizes back at the hotel.

- **Friday, July 21;** The general membership meeting will be chaired by John Schinker. There will be one set of seminars that morning. Sign up early for the best choice! After lunch and door prizes, there will be two sets of seminars in the afternoon. Sign up early for the best choice!
 - **Friday afternoon;** There will be free time for some, and members of the Central Great Lakes Gardeners region will hold their annual meeting. Guests are welcome.
 - **Friday evening;** There will be a president's reception with a cash bar and passed hors d'oeuvres before the banquet. The dinner choices will be Grilled Chicken Breast with tomato jam OR Sirloin Medallions. Awards, installation of officers and an after-dinner speaker are planned.
 - **Saturday, July 22;** Tour day for the Central Great Lakes Gardeners. It will be completely different route from the Thursday tour. Guests are welcome, but sign up early to get a place in the 56 passenger bus.
5. **What about vegetarians?** There will be vegetarian option at all the meals.
 6. **Will there be vendors?** We are working on having vendors with garden related products attractively priced.
 7. **Will there be a hospitality suite?** Yes, it will be located close to the meeting and seminar rooms.
 8. **What about breakfast?** The least expensive breakfast package from the hotel would have added \$51 to the cost of the convention. The planning group decided to hold the price down and ask people to supply their own breakfast. There is a minifridge and coffee maker in every room. There is a restaurant in the lobby of the hotel. There is a Denny's restaurant right next door that gives a 10% discount to hotel guests. There are restaurant and fast food options 5 minutes away. We hope everyone understands this decision to keep the convention costs down.
 9. **What about arriving early or staying over to see places in Cleveland?** The hotel will give you the convention rate of \$94/night for your whole stay. That includes free Wi-Fi and parking garage access. Just identify yourself as a convention guest when you make your reservation.
 10. **What to see in Cleveland?** The Cleveland Indians will be playing the Blue Jays July 21 – 23. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame is a top attraction. The Cleveland Art Museum is open and FREE every day except Monday. There are outstanding shopping opportunities at Crocker Park 18 minutes from the hotel. We will have local experts to direct you to anything you'd like to see!
 11. **When should I register?** The sooner you register, the lower the cost! You will also get first choice on seminars. It would be a great help to the committee if you sent your reservation in before March 1!
 12. **Will there be a "day rate" for the convention?** Yes, but it will save you money to sign up for the whole three days. Besides, there will be a lot going on that you don't want to miss!

Tom Davis



The Germinator

March 2017



TGOA / MGCA NATIONAL CONVENTION
JULY 19- 21, 2017



GARDEN SCENE IN SEVENTEEN

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM – PLEASE USE SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH PERSON

CONVENTION Fee: Per Person

Early Bird Until March 1, 2017 \$240.00

March 2 - June 1, 2017 \$260.00

after June 2, 2017 \$290.00

Cancellation Fee after (June 1, 2017) - \$50.00

Enclose a copy of current AHS card - AHS Card Reduce Fee by \$11.00

If interested in Optional extra tour day July 22, Cost \$ TBD

Name (Please Print): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (_____) _____ Cell (_____) _____

E-Mail: _____

Name on Badge: _____

TGOA/MGCA Club: _____

Location: _____

Handicap or Other Special Needs: _____

SEMINARS

Wednesday Seminars

1:00 PM - 2:15PM

- Horticulture Show Basic by Peggy Moody
- Gardening & Garden Centers Trends by Jeff Griff
- Hydrangeas by Eric Barrett

2:30 PM - 3:45 PM

- Horticulture Show Basic by Peggy Moody
- Gardening & Garden Centers Trends by Jeff Griff
- Hydrangeas by Eric Barrett

Friday Seminars

10:45 AM- 11:45 AM

- Plant Nutrition and Lighting by Mark Occhionero
- What is in a name by Ellen Speicher
- Dragonflies by Judy Semrok

1:30 PM- 2:30 Pm

- What is in a name by Ellen Speicher
- Photography by Richard States
- Pollinators by Denise Elsworth

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

- Dragonflies by Judy Semrok
- Photography by Richard States

MEALS

Friday Night Dinner Chose One Chicken Steak

Vegetarian Meals if preferred.

Medically Required Diet: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

TGOA / MGCA NATIONAL CONVENTION

MAIL REGISTRATION AND CHECK TO:

The Gardeners of America / Men's Garden Clubs of America

PO Box 241

Johnston, Iowa 50131-6245

FOR CGLR USE ONLY

Registration Number _____

Check Number _____

Date Received _____

Date Processed _____



The Germinator

March 2017

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

Members are urged to give them a visit.

ANYHONY BILLET

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P.O. Box 11138
Youngstown, OH 44511
330-788-8739
www.TheYoungstownPlayhouse.com

JOE ALESSI

KESTER'S KRISAS

RICHARD STATES

The Germinator

March 2017



Men's Garden Club of Youngstown Ohio
c/o Newsletter Editor
123 McKinley Ave. • Youngstown, OH 44509

www.mgcy.org



Friday, March 17, 2017

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

calendar of events



March 1	General Meeting	FRG	7:00 pm
March 8	Board Meeting	Austintown Public Library	6:30 pm
March 18	Spring Breakfast	FRG	9:00 am
April 5	General Meeting	FRG	7:00 pm
April 7-9	Home and Garden Show	Canfield Fair Grounds	10 am - 5 pm
TBA	CGLRG Meeting	Kingwood Gardens, Mansfield, OH	10 am
April 12	Board Meeting	Austintown Public Library	6:30 pm
May 3	General Meeting	FRG	7:00 pm
May 10	Board Meeting	Austintown Public Library	6:30 pm
June 7	General Meeting Plant Auct.	Casserole or Pot Luck Dinner Bdmn Pk	6/7 pm
June 14	Board Meeting	Austintown Public Library	6:30 pm
July 5	General Meeting	FRG	7:00 pm
July 12	Board Meeting	Austintown Public Library	6:30 pm
Aug 2	General Meeting	FRG	7:00 pm
Aug 9	Board Meeting	Austintown Public Library	6:30 pm
Aug 24	Scrappers Outing	Eastwood Field	TBA

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