



# 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 - September

We have the Scrappers game and the Horticultural Show behind us, and we are looking forward to having our table at the Canfield Fair. I would like to thank everyone who signed up to help man the table at the fair.

We also have the summer picnic behind us and I would like to give a special thanks to our cooks, as the food was delicious! Thank you to Larry Duck who was kind enough to host us at his house.

Pretty soon it will be time to clean out our gardens as we wrap up harvest season. Unfortunately, my garden didn't do so well this year, although there were plenty of beans! I guess there is always next year. Fall is a good time to think about what we want for spring and to plant various bulbs like tulips, so give it some thought.

We will be having officer elections in October, and my term as president of the club will be up. I encourage you to think about volunteering to be an officer, as we can always use new leadership. As the old saying goes, you only get out of something what you put into it.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at the next meeting.

Thanks,  
**Dennis**

### Summer's End

*Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened.*

Dr. Seuss

*By all these lovely tokens September days are here. With summers best of weather and autumn's best of cheer.*

Helen Hunt Jackson

*What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness?*

John Steinbeck

*There is something deep within us that sobs at endings. Why, God, does everything have to end? Why does all nature grow old? Why do spring and summer have to go?*

Joe Wheeler

*One must maintain a little bit of summer, even in the middle of winter.*

Henry David Thoreau



### Membership Meeting

7:00pm, Wednesday, Sept. 6

Speaker: Marilyn McKinley

Subject:

OSU Ext. Master Gardeners

### Board Meeting

6:30pm, Wednesday, Sept. 13

Austintown Public Library

South Raccoon Rd.

- All Members Welcome -

### MetroParks Events

MetroParks Farm at Fair	1 thru 6
Golf Shop Sale	1 thru 4
Hike w/ Naturalist	3
Relax, Restore & Renew	9, 16, 23, 30
Traveling Naturalist	9
Birding the Sanctuary	16
Garden Forum Show	16, 17
Wildflower Hike	17
Brown Bag Birding	19
Waltz/Swing Dance Classes	19, 26
Botanical Mornings	19, 29
Sunset at the Farm	23
Autumn Welcome	24
Mobility thru Walking	28
Tree/Shrub Landscaping	30
Autumn in the Woods	30

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

## In This Issue



President's Message .....	1
Club News .....	2
Steak Fry	
Schinker Awarded Bob Hull Cup	
CGL Region Office Open	
TGOA-MGCA Convention.....	3
Tour Day .....	4
Horticulture Presentations .....	5
States Photo Collage.....	6
Sponsors.....	7
Club Calendar & Officers .....	8



## Club News

WWW.MGCY.ORG

82 Members • 2 Associates

### Steak Fry & Hort Show Tutorial

If there has ever been a better friend to our club than Larry Duck, we are at a loss to say whom it might be. From enabling our use of the MASCO greenhouse to grow Spring Plant Sale annuals while Mahoning County Board of Developmental Disabilities Director to hosting our annual Steak Fry at his home's beautiful pavilion for several years, Larry has earned our enduring gratitude. To show our appreciation, National President John Schinker gave Mr. and Mrs. Duck two beautiful vases left over from the national conference door prizes.

The Fry's perfect setting was complimented by ideal weather, great food, good company and an opportunity to bone up on presentation subtleties in preparation for our Annual Horticulture Show. Larry's hospitality aside,

Bob McGowan is the club member most responsible of the event's success. Bob



not only grilled the chicken and salmon, but purchased most of the vittles including the steaks Charlie Grounds so expertly grilled. Among those who brought side dishes were Bob, Charlie, Paul Shanabarger and Rodney Toth.



As has become a Steak Fry tradition, Rodney, our resident flower show expert, asked attendees to judge what was good, bad and to rate (1-4) ten plant exhibits

## Helping our Valley to Grow Since 1930

he brought. We all learned that foliage represents only 5-10% of an exhibit's show value, so if you have an otherwise beautiful flower with minor insect or disease damage don't be too quick to dismiss it as an exhibit.

Which brings us to the bottom line: Most of us have perennials or annuals growing in our yards that are respectable enough to enter. As the name Men's Garden Club of Youngstown implies, we are an organization whose primary focus is Mother Earth's abundant and diverse flora, so it seems reasonable to ask every member to make an effort that helps ensure the diversity and success of our Annual Horticulture Show.

### Takes From National Convention

During the Awards Dinner, TGCA/MGCA President John Schinker was surprised and humbled when his Bill Hull Memorial Cup award was announced. The award recognizes members/amateur gardeners who have performed long-term horticulture service to their community and the national organization, both over a minimum of ten years. Among the specifics cited was his development and profitable operation of the MASCO greenhouse that funds many of our projects and activities.

Also cited: Managing the Leonard Kirtz School greenhouse; establishing the Senior Memorial Garden on Austintown's Javitt Ct.; TGOA, MGCA horticulture judge; three terms as MGCY president and committee participation; Central Great Lakes president and other services to region; TGOA/MGCA office holder including president, national director, and chairman of 2017 national convention. *Congratulations, but they didn't have to tell our club's members. John has been the life's blood of MGCY for many years.*

Bob McGowan was also recognized for years of service to the national with the Silver Medal which is awarded to members who: Directs a productive national committee; officer exhibiting outstanding leadership and active participation in committees; leadership and service that enhances TGOA/MGCA reputation through his accomplishments; and community service by participating in activities that further the national's goals and objectives. Bob has been TGOA/MGCA Executive and Finance committees' member for many years.

### CGL Region Needs 2nd V.P.

The Central Great Lakes Region needs someone to step up to assume the responsibilities of Second Vice President. Our club has a history of regional leadership including Bill Carney, Hugh Earnhart, Rodney Toth and John Schinker who went on to hold national office. It would do us proud to again have a club member looking after our interests on the regional level.



## TGCA-MGCA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

### 'The Garden Scene in '17'

The 2017 convention of The Garden Clubs of America/Mens Garden Clubs of America, held at the Airport Marriott in Cleveland, was hosted by the combined efforts of the Gardeners of Greater Cleveland, the Gardeners of Greater Akron, and the Mens Garden Club of Youngstown. In addition to committee members John Schinker - Chairman, Bob Bell - Vice Chairman, Tom Davis - Vice Chairman, and members Clark Border, Larry Kell, Les Knight and Sam Morlan, we must thank all those who played a part in making it an event to remember.

The hotel's facilities were excellent for our purposes and the staff was always helpful. The conference was well planned to the last detail and included two firsts: A well stocked hospitality room due to the efforts of Georgia Schinker and Kay Toth; and a horticulture show with 80 exhibits so good that Rodney Toth didn't win any significant recognition. Best in Show went to a 'mouse ear' hosta leaf.



While the Cleveland and Akron clubs admittedly led the way with planning and logistics, we provided a lion's share of door prizes. During most lunches and dinners, our members distributed interesting and useful items like the bird houses Dennis Toth made and displayed at our membership meeting. Each attendee received a doorprize. But MGCY really shined at the Awards Dinner. Everybody got to choose between an award winning photo print provided by Photography Contest Sweepstakes winner Richard States, and a gorgeous vase provided by a donor who preferred to remain anonymous. These were gifts of significant value that not only testify to the generosity of the donors, but shine a positive light on our club.

In addition, most of the seminar presenters and the dinner's keynote speaker had a Youngstown area flavor. Keith Kaiser, former horticulture director at Fellows Riverside Gardens and now president of the new Pittsburg Botanical Gardens, spoke of the importance of cooperation between public and private entities when it comes to facilities like the ones his career has served. Seminar speakers, former Fellows Assistant Horticulture Director Ellen Speicher, Ohio State

Univ. Extension Educator Eric Barrett, and MGCY member and photographer extraordinaire Richard States provided half of the conference educational offerings.

*Permit us to say that Keith, Ellen and others who gave years of dedicated service to Mill Creek MetroParks should have been given more respect in regard to the circumstances of their separation during reorganization - circumstances that have left a bitter taste in the mouths of many Fellows' Friends.*

Tour Day not only took us to two of the Cleveland area's green jewels; the Cleveland Botanical Gardens, a ten acre wonder founded in 1930 and the first of its kind in the U.S., and the Lake View Cemetery where the national memorial service was held. During our travels by bus, our guides gave us a running commentary about Cleveland's rich history and ongoing renaissance. It was obvious that the Cleveland club had worked overtime in research and preparation.

We didn't do too shabbily in the awards department, either. John Schinker received the prestigious Bob Hull Memorial Cup, and Bob McGowan was awarded the Silver Medal and Spade Award for recruiting two or more members during a single year. For the umpteenth time, States took both Best in Show and the Sweepstakes in the photography contest. His reign is not without some controversy. Some sore losers falsely accuse him of being a professional which we all know isn't true. It's just that he is so much better than competition that includes some excellent photographers. *The Germinator* won the newsletter competition among clubs with 50-100 members.

While attendance at the conference met the committee's goal, we were a bit disappointed that more MGCY member didn't partake in at least one of the event's interesting and educational activities. Attendees from Youngstown's were:



*Dave Campana, Paul Shanabarger, Rodney Toth, Kay Toth, Hugh Earnhart, Mary Kay Earnhart, John Schinker and Georgia Schinker. Richard States not shown.*

Long-time MGCY alumni who have been involved with TGCA/MGCA all say that all of our members should attend at least one national convention. Given the relatively close venue and our club's participation in co-hosting the event, this was the one.



## CONVENTION TOUR DAY

Hats off to all who helped plan and execute the Tour of greater Cleveland in general and, specifically, two great points of horticultural interest on the second day of the Convention. We were not only impressed by beautiful exhibits in the Cleveland Botanical Gardens and Lake View Cemetery, but also the area's rich history and extensive revitalization.

Three who went above and beyond were our tour guides



Cleveland club members Fred Robinson and Dave Rittenhouse, and bus driver, Tammy.

### Cleveland Botanical Gardens

The gardens were founded in 1930 on ten acres in the University Circle area also home to several museums. In 2014, the gardens and the Holden Arboretum joined forces pursuing urban greening and forestry initiatives, environmental research, and educational programs.

Due to time limits, our tour was confined to a few of the gardens. Of delight to children of all ages are the LEGO sculptures throughout the gardens. They include a



butterfly, hummingbird, dragonfly, tortoise, peacock, deer, spider, birdbath, ant mosaic, and a grandfather and granddaughter gardening.

### GLASS HOUSE - Two Continental Extremes

Under a massive glass enclosure with a computer controlled climate system, we transitioned between a desert in Madagascar and the rainforests of Costa Rica. Included are 350 species of exotic plants, 50 butterfly species, birds, reptiles and amphibians moving about us. Cinema buffs will remember the butterfly (*Morpho fabricius*) from the movie, 'Papillon'. We had several of those among many other species fluttering about. Vegetation



included "upside down" baobabs, bottle-shaped pachypodiums and strangler figs.

In addition to the Glass House, there are the Gateway Garden, Perennial Border, Topiary Garden, Children's Garden, Restorative Garden, Herb Garden, Inspiration Gardens, Japanese Garden, Rose Garden, Terrace Garden and Woodland Garden. Along the way there was signage explaining such natural phenomena



leaf-cutter ants, thousand cankers disease, oak wilt, a Costa Rica butterfly field guide, and a display of numerous butterflies emerging from their cocoons.

An important element that keeps the gardens in is such beautiful condition is volunteers like Bill. These unpaid but dedicated people work everywhere from the gift shop to pruning to planting to sweeping floors.



### Lake Park Cemetery

Our last stop was the 285 acre cemetery, the final resting place of over 100,000 departed including John D. Rockefeller, Pres. John Garfield, Marcus Hannah and John Hay. While it has a remarkable variety of large mature, understory and ornamental visit-worthy trees, the purpose of our visit was the TGOA/MGCA Memorial service conducted by Rev. Bob Pindell at the Wade Chapel to honor and remember those who passed



away in 2016 including MGCA Past President and Bill Carney Bronze Award winner Bill Slabe, and Bob Fink who helped ensure the success of many Winter Seminars by procuring Chinese auction prizes.



## CONVENTION SEMINARS

As the old saying goes, "Gardeners are always learning", so what would a gathering of green thumbs be without the opportunity to enhance their skill and knowledge. Here we briefly cover just a few.

### **POLLINATORS - Denise Ellsworth**

Pollinators play an indispensable role in the natural world by transferring pollen from the male reproductive part of a flower (stamen) to its female counterpart (pistil) thus ensuring the perpetuation of the species. Wind and rain account for some pollination but animals account for most.

While pollinators include beetles, wasps, flies, butterflies, hummingbirds, moths, bats and the larva of many other insects, bees account for a lion's share of pollen movement. There are over 4000 bee species and most have a preference for the flowers they visit. Also, visiting bees will vary depending upon the time of year.

We are most familiar with social species like honeybees and bumblebees that live in colonies or hives. Some species are solitary like ground nesting species where each female will have multiple cells. A number may nest in the same area without any cooperation.

Other species nest either in naturally occurring cavities or, like carpenter bees, create their own by burrowing. Carpenter bees can cause a great deal of damage and, other than replacing the wood they chew into, they can be difficult to evict. Woodpecker activity may be an indication of their presence.

One species that concerns entomologists is the Rusty Patch Bumblebee which is considered endangered. It has an orange spot surrounded by yellow on its abdomen. If you see one you might want to report it to the OSU Extension.



### **HYDRANGEAS - Eric Barrett**

These beautiful plants come in 5 varieties: 'Smooth' which bloom on new wood (prune out some stems for larger flowers); 'Oakleaf' which bloom on old wood and should be pruned after flowering; 'Bigleaf' which bloom on old and new wood, and should be shaped after flowers fade; 'Climbing' bloom on old wood and are pruned only to shape; and 'Panicle' which bloom on new wood. All prefer partial sun and except the Bigleaf s which do best in nearly full shade.

Among Eric's favorites are 'Incrediball', a Smooth

variety, that resembles 'Annabelle' but with much stronger stems; 'Alice', an Oakleaf variety; and 'Bobo', a Panicle variety.

### **GARDENING MYTHS - Eric Barrett**



As usual, Eric covered a lot of ground during his presentation, so we'll just pass on old wives tales that hold some truth or are just plain hooey.

*Remove tomato suckers to increases air flow, more fruiting energy, and creating natural insecticide.*

*Except for porous seed (beans), presoaking is okay.*

*For use as a mulch, coffee grounds must be composted.*

*Our area has an aluminum deficiency.*

*Lower pH with aluminum sulfate.*

*Calcium from egg shells prevents blossom end rot.*

*Tomatoes love magnesium - Epsom salts a good source.*

*Few mills = less sulfur in the air; less need to lime.*

*2lb. wood ash= 1lb. lime.*

*Adding potassium may deplete magnesium.*

*Prune in the afternoon when plants are dry.*



### **WHAT'S IN A NAME - Ellen Speicher**

When you meet a smarty-pants who knows the scientific names of many plants, they usually turn out to be excellent gardeners. They'll tell you that there is a 7 tier hierarchy beginning with Kingdom (Plantae) and ending with Genus and Species. The last 2 are of concern of most gardeners. Sugar maple trees are of the genus 'Acer' - Latin for sharp, hard wood. The species is 'Acer saccharum'. Those who want to explore the subject in depth can check out the following books:

*'Dictionary of Plant Names' and*

*'Sterns' Dictionary of Plant Names for Gardeners.'*

### **Other Presentations:**

**HORTICULTURE SHOW BASICS - Peggy Moody**

**GARDEN CENTER TRENDS - Jeff Griff**

**SUCCULENTS - Jeff Havel**

**PHOTOGRAPHY - Richard States (See Page 6)**



The

# Germinator

September 2017

## Richard States' Photography Competition Entries





Thank you to the MGCY Friends for their Civic Fund donations.  
Members are urged to give them a visit.

**DICK ADGATE FLORIST**

4257 Market St  
Youngstown, Oh 44512  
330-788-5054

**JOE ALESSI**  
MGCY Member

**ARTIST AT WORK**

337 Elm St  
Struthers, OH  
330-755-4922  
aawfriends@yahoo.com

**BAIRD BROTHERS**

7060 Crory Rd  
Canfield, Oh 44406  
330-533-3122  
info@bairdbrothers.com

**PAM BAYTOS**

330-547-2126  
levi05@zoominternet.net

**BERNARD DANIELS LUMBER**

260 Railroad St  
Canfield, Oh 44406  
330-533-2211

**ANTHONY BILLET**

188 Palestine Ave  
Youngstown, Oh 44512  
330-758-8225

**BLUESTONE PERENNIALS**

7211 Middle Ridge Rd  
Madison, Oh 44057  
800-852-5243  
www.bluestoneperennials.com

**BRENT AND BECKY'S BULBS**

7900 Daffodil Lane  
Gloucester, Va 23061  
877-661-2852  
www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com

**CARRADINE CHIROPRACTIC CTR INC**

8286 South Ave, Bldg B  
Youngstown, Oh 44512  
330-758-4446  
www.carradinechiropractic.com

**CHARLY'S RESTAURANT**

4455 Kirk Rd  
Youngstown, Oh 44515  
330-799-5569

**COLONIAL GARDENS**

1419 Youngstown-Kingsville Road SE  
Vienna, OH 44473  
http://www.colonialgardensohio.com

**CONIFER KINGDOM**

PO Box 1581  
6450 Branch Creek Dr, NE  
Silverton, Or 97381  
503-874-4123  
www.coniferkingdom.com

**CROUSE TRUE VALUE  
HARDWARE**

1178 Market St  
North Lima, Oh 44452  
330-549-2144

**DAVIDSON'S RESTAURANT**

3636 Canfield Road  
Canfield (Cornersburg), OH 44406  
330-793-0033

**DJ'S GREENHOUSE**

1004 East Lake Rd  
Transfer, Pa 16154  
724-962-1230  
www.djsgreenhouse.com

**DR WILLIAM S. DIORIO**

Podiatrist  
Center Road  
Poland OH 44514  
330-757-9444

**EARTH SUN MOON TRADING CO.**

111 North Center St  
Grove City, Pa 16127  
888-458-16127  
www.earthsunmoon.com

**EARTHBOX**

1350 Von Storch Ave  
Scranton, Pa 18509  
800-821-8838  
www.earthbox.com

**ELLIOT'S GARDEN CENTER**

1283 W. Western Reserve Rd  
Poland, Oh 44514  
330-758-8889

**FAMOUS HAIR #91**

421 East Main Street  
Canfield, OH 44406  
330-702-0213

**FITNESS TOGETHER**

6579 Ironwood Blvd  
Canfield - Howland -  
Poland, Oh 44506  
330-702-1311  
www.ftyoungstown.com

**GARDENING-INDOOR**

9215 Market Street  
North Lima, OH 44452  
330-758-0272  
www.gardening-indoors.com

**DEBBIE GONDA, LMT**

23 Lisbon Street  
Suite A  
Canfield, OH 44406  
330-402-7303  
buckeyemassage@gmail.com

**GREEN VALLEY SEED**

7472 Akron-Canfield Rd, Rte 224  
Canfield, Oh 44406  
330-533-4353

**GREIER AG CENTER**

9585 Columbiana-Canfield Rd  
Canfield, Oh 44406  
330-533-6937

**HANDEL'S ICE CREAM**

3830 Starr Centre Dr  
Canfield, Oh 44406  
330-702-8270  
www.handelsicecream.com

**HANDYMAN HARDWARE  
& SUPPLY**

4351 Kirk Rd  
Youngstown, Oh 44511  
330-793-1268

**HOUSE DOCTORS  
WINDOW & DOOR**

998 Tibbetts-Wick Rd  
Girard, Oh 44420  
330-539-0111

**JOHNNY'S RESTAURANT**

7807 Market St  
Youngstown, Oh 44512

**KESTER'S KRIS**

MGCY Member  
Pulaski, Pa

**KRIDLER GARDENS**

4809 Homeworth Rd  
Homeworth, Oh 44634  
330-525-7914  
www.kridler-gardens.com

**LEO'S RISTORANTE**

7042 East Market St  
Warren, Oh 44484  
330-856-5291

**LOU'S BEER & WINE CELLAR**

2975 Canfield-Niles Rd  
Youngstown, Oh 44515  
330-799-2059

**MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF  
YOUNGSTOWN**

123 McKinley Ave  
Youngstown, Oh 44509  
www.mgcy.org

**PARKS GARDEN CENTER**

9010 Youngstown-Salem Rd  
Canfield, Oh 44406  
330-533-7278

**ROBERT MCGOWAN, LPL  
FINANCIAL**

MGCY Member  
3736 Boardman-Canfield Rd  
Canfield, Oh 44406  
330-533-2320

**SALVATORE'S ITALIAN GRILL**

8720 East Market St  
Warren, Oh 44484  
330-609-7777

**PAUL D. SHANABARGER**

MGCY Member

**RICHARD STATES**

MGCY Member

**VERNON'S CAFÉ**

720 Youngstown-Warren Rd  
Niles, Oh 44406  
330-652-1381  
www.vernonscafe.com

**VILLAGE PHARMACY /  
ACE HARDWARE**

10395 Main Street  
New Middletown, OH 44442  
(330)-542-2803

**WEDGEWOOD PIZZA**

1622 Raccoon Rd  
Youngstown, Oh 44515  
330-799-2102

**WHITEHOUSE FRUIT FARMS**

9249 Youngstown-Salem Rd  
Canfield, Oh 44406  
330-533-4161

**WILD BIRDS UNLIMITED**

90 Boardman-Canfield Rd.  
Youngstown, Oh 44512  
330-629-2473

**THE YOUNGSTOWN PLAYHOUSE**

600 Playhouse Lane  
PO Box 11108  
Youngstown, OH 44511-1108  
(330)-788-8739  
www.theyoungstownplayhouse.com



The

# Germinator

September 2017



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

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

*Have a safe Labor Day*



Labor Day  
Monday, September 4, 2017

## calendar of events



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



See you at the Canfield Fair!  
Wed., Aug. 30 - Mon., Sept. 4

## THE MGCY 2017 OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Dennis Zap  
zappy4@aol.com

### 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

Paul Shanabarger  
pdsanab@aol.com

### 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

Bruce Brungard  
330-793-1307 • bgbhhi@live.com

### TREASURER

Robert J. McGowan  
P.O. Box 724 • Canfield, OH 44406  
330-518-6397 • rjfmcgowan@aol.com

### RECORDING SECRETARY

Joe Fagnano  
330-533-2475 (H) • 330-559-5295 (C)  
jlfagnano@hotmail.com

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

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

### PHOTOGRAPHER

Bob Stas (*in memoriam*)

### GERMINATOR STAFF

David Campana, Editor  
Paul Shanabarger • Dan Miller  
Joseph Alessi, Jr., Editor Emeritus  
mgcygerminator@gmail.com