



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 - June

Does anyone else feel like time is racing by? The weather we have had is unusual to say the least. In spite of all the signals of global warming/ climate change, only 33% of us are worried a great deal. However, 68% of people are very concerned about pollution of rivers, lakes and reservoirs.

The folks I've talked to seem to be somehow convinced we are in for a hot, dry summer. Get your biggest straw hat and gloves to put mulch/ compost around your plants to help hold in moisture.

Last Saturday, (14th), MGCY attended an organizational meeting at Akron Children's Hospital. ACH has taken over the raised bed gardens and have named them "Family Gardens". About 15 families have signed up so far. MGCY members prepared the gardens, (weeded and tilled). MGCY also provided plants, seeds, hand tools, name plates for the bed owners, and educational material.

ACH will be doing their planting on Wednesday, May 25th. Special thanks to John Fox, John Schinker and Bob Stas for their significant contributions.

MGCY has already done a great deal this year, but there are many more events/activities; Plant Auction, steak fry, Scrappers Baseball and the Horticulture Show to name a few.

Don't forget, the Canfield Fair is just around the corner, August 31 to September 5th. SPONSORS: please team up with our new members to man our booth. It's a great way to welcome them and get to know their interests.

Happy Planting,

Dave

Plant Auction/General Meeting

June 1st - Boardman Park
Lariccia Community Center
5:30 pm Setup, 6:00 pm Prayer/Dinner



Board Meeting

June 8th, Austintown Library - 6:30 pm
All members welcome

WANTED

REWARD
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Wanted:
Chairman of
Winter Seminar
Committee

PLANT AUCTION POTLUCK DINNER



Wednesday,
June 1st at 6:00 pm
at the Lariccia
Community Center
in Boardman Park

*Please bring a
covered dish
and/or
dessert to share*
Plants, Members,
Plants, Guests &
Plants
Welcome



Mill Creek MetroParks

JUNE EVENTS

Health & wellness, golf, children's & family activities, nature hikes, horticulture shows & seminars, workshops, crafts & more:

- 10th.... Life in and around the pond. Age 2-3
Story, craft, fun activities. Call for details/ registration.
- 14th.... Explore - become a nature detective.
Explore forests, fields, ponds. Age 5-6.
Fee. Registration by June 7.
- 16th.... Family Farm Tours. Explore the
MetroParks Farms. 10:00am - 11:30am.
Tractor wagon ride, guided visits to barns.
- 18th.... Garden Forum Flower Show. 9:00am
- 5:00pm
- 24th.... Botanical Mornings. 9am - 10am
Discover the bountiful blooms at Fellows
Riverside Gardens with a staff member.

*For a complete schedule and details:
www.millcreekmetroparks.com*

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Club News

WWW.MGCY.ORG

86 Members • 1 Associate

New Members

Joe Consiglio - 578 Creed St., Struthers, OH, 44471, 330-207-6004, Madbull20@aol.com. Joe is married (Joan) and retired. His gardening interests include trees and vegetables. He also enjoys cars, racing and camping. Sponsored by Paul Shanabarger.

Doug Evans - 111 East Main St., #4, Canfield, OH, 330-533-0151, 330-533-1877, Doug3079@yahoo.com. His gardening interests include landscaping and shade gardening. Sponsored by Lynn Hoffman

Thomas E. Infante - 3515 Easy St., Canfield, OH, 330-533-2252, 330-503-2252, smokey3960@aol.com. Doug is a semi-retired attorney doing business at 1040 South Commons Place, Suite 200, Youngstown. He is married (Elizabeth). His gardening interests are wide and varied. Sponsored by Bob McGowan

Rex Luckage - 9969 Mahoning Ave., North Jackson, OH, 330-538-0520, 330-531-1247. He operates Rex's Lawn and Garden, PO Box 132, North Jackson and is married (Debbie). Propagation and vegetables are at the top of his gardening interests.

Arnold Lees - 27 Benita Ave., Youngstown, OH. 44505, 234-855-2390, PERUCRAFTS1@gmail.com. Arnold is retired and married (Herminia). His gardening interests include the landscaping in Crandall Park. He is a member of the Upper N. Heights Neighborhood Assn. Sponsored by Bob McGowan.

The Future Is Bright

Our May membership meeting was an opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of a few youngsters and young adults who find wonder in Nature's precious gifts. Whether it's sowing a seed and watching it grow or preparing for a life dedicated to the botanical sciences, they share our love of the beautiful bounty that too many of our and their peers often take for granted.

The Mens Garden Club of Youngstown's Spring Plant Sale is not only a fund raising endeavor but also a chance to help spark children's interest in the natural processes. Through the efforts of Greenhouse Chairman John Schinker, we donate plants to Paul C. Bunn

Helping our Valley to Grow Since 1930

Elementary School where each classroom has a raised bed. Plants are also provided to Mill Creek MetroParks Veggie Gardens Project for youngsters.

Two Veggie Garden participants, Emma Bushling and Jenna Wilkison, were honored for doing so well in the in TGOA/MGCA Youth Competition.

Emma took second place in the Giant Sunflower competition while Jenna Wilkison won second place in the



Perfect Plant competition for documenting the growth of her ornamental gourd from seed to maturity. The awards were presented by National Vice President John Schinker who has been long active in the Veggie Garden program. He encouraged the young ladies to enter our Horticulture Show in August.

2015 Scholarship Winners Give Presentations



Youngstown State Univ. sophomore Joseph Fagnano will transfer to Ohio State next year in furtherance of his ambition to be a horticulture educator. He talked about incorporating native plants in the garden.

Vegetation is deemed native if it was in America prior to European settlement. Joey gave examples of some of his favorite plants and how they might be incorporated in various garden arrangements.

Christian Moore attends Ohio State Univ. studying landscape architecture. His presentation covered his current year of education. Much of it involved digital and handcrafted modeling of varied applications, a very involved process.



Chris will spend most of this summer touring/tenting in 27 U.S. National Parks.

We wish these fine young men all the best.



SPRING PLANT SALE

What a difference a weekend can make. On Wednesday morning, May 4th, there were about 40,000 plants and 175 hanging baskets crowded into the Mahoning County Board of Developmental Disabilities' (Bev) MASCO greenhouse. By the time the Mens Garden Club Of Youngstown's Spring Plant Sale was over the following Saturday evening, all baskets and 95% of the plants were sold.

Greenhouse and Plant Sale Chairman John Schinker



puts in countless hours preparing for our primary fundraiser that enables all other club projects, activities and scholarships. Years of experience enables him to tweak the inventory to improve sales. This year he added more petunias, tomato and pepper varieties, and 12" hanging baskets. He had to buy 40 additional baskets at a premium from Chuck's Greenhouse in North Jackson as the original stock was sold out by Friday morning. Winners of the hanging basket raffle were Marylou Burns of Boardman, Joyce D'Amico of Columbiana and Jean Montgomery of Youngstown.

A significant portion of our inventory is historically purchased by MASCO employees and the families of clients. As a special 'Thank You', they were allowed to



shop a day early. This also helped keep manageable the first day's crowd of buyers. Significant purchases were also made by the Youngstown Country Club and member Rodney Toth who stocks up on plants for his landscaping business.

Don't be concerned about those leftover plants. They were donated to the OSU Extension Gardening Partners, Paul C. Bunn School, Mill Creek MetroParks' Veggie Garden Program, Akron Children's Hospital Patient Garden, Dave Williams' planting of the MASCO garden, and our annual decorating of the war veteran memorials in downtown Youngstown and Smoky Hollow. The club will host a pizza party for MASCO clients who will each receive a plant to take home.

John was particularly pleased with the membership's response in planting seedlings, watering, and assisting customers during the sale. In previous years, he often had to call individual members when work needed done. This year all he had to do was make an announcement at membership meetings and guys show up.

While some work like preparing the baskets was delegated to Chuck's, the greenhouse is still labor intensive. Two members who contributed the most were Bruce Brungard who tended the Leonard Kirtz School



greenhouse where some plants were started earlier in the year, and John Fox who spent many hours at MASCO. Members who watered daily were a big help. They were: Dennis Zap, Terry Voland, Schinker, Carlo Rubino, Art Roden, Fox, Pat Cunning, Dave Campana, Brungard, Mike Beaudis and Mike Banks.

The plant sale was promoted in a number of ways. The club information booth at the Canfield Fairgrounds in April was organized by Brungard and manned by Beaudis, Campana, Tom Liggett, Bob McGowan, Roden, Schinker, Paul Shanabarger (2 shifts), Bob Stas, Richard States and Zap. And a few days before the sale, Bruce and John talked about the sale with Jessica Briganti on WFMJ TV's Early Show. We apologize if we missed any contributing members.

Photographs by Bob Stas.



MetroParks Daffodil Show

Be they known as daffodils, daffadowndillies and jonquils, these members of the amaryllis family are also called narcissus, named for the mythical Greek lad who fell in love with his own reflection - something like the today's obsession with smart phone 'selfies'.



Exhibitors at the Davis Center show, however, save their love for these iconic symbols of Spring. Among those with the most entries were Marcy Dubec, Cynthia Foust, Mary Grace Fowler, and Janet Yaniglos.

To the uninformed when it comes to daffodil competition (meaning us), the show schedule reads as Greek as Narcissus himself. In addition to five divisions with thirteen sections each, there are seven additional divisions including Historic, Youth, Unidentified, Standard and Miniature Collections, and the Fellows and Wister Awards Collections.



left - *Wister 'Chromacolor'*
right - *'Fellows Favorite'*



USA Today ranks Fellows Riverside Gardens in the Top Ten nationally for viewing daffodils. The show was highlighted by the recently renovated Daffodil Meadow, originally installed by the Garden Club of Youngstown in 1930; the Brent Heath Daffodil lecture; and the Guided Walk viewing daffodils, tulips and hyacinths.

Mulching Alternatives

Mulching flower beds and gardens has many benefits including preventing unwanted seed germination which means less weeding, retention of soil moisture, encouraging beneficial microbial activity, moderating hot day/cold night soil temperatures, helping to prevent plant diseases, promoting earthworm activity, and recycling nutrients into the soil.

There any number of effective mulches including grass clippings, bark mulch, leaves, newspapers and

recycled tire material. Instead of investing in expensive mulches, a small chipper-shredder can pay for itself by recycling pruned plant material breaking it down into a more easily spread and faster decomposing state. Remember that decomposition, especially that of fresh plant matter, naturally removes nitrogen from the soil that must be replaced with fertilizer.

Invasion of Brood V

Having been buried for years, they will claw themselves to the surface and gross out anyone laying eyes on them. They are big, ugly and their non-stop screaming can drive you mad. Their rotting flesh will make you long for the smell of decaying fish.

No, they're not zombies - they are 17 year cicada (*Magicicada*), Brood V. The mature nymphs generally emerge when the temperature 8" beneath ground reaches 64 degrees. While local populations vary, this brood should now be your new alarm clock.



The nymphs crawl up whatever vertical structure is handy and molt their exoskeletons. For two to four weeks, the males scream their mating call by rapidly vibrating ribbed membranes on their backs. Successful mating results in the females laying about 600 eggs. Hatched nymphs start out sucking twigs, fall to the ground and burrow down to spend the next 17 years sucking roots.

One member recalls, when a child, he would put a shed shell on the coffee pot or on his shirt in the morning to startle drowsy mother. Fast forward to 17 years ago when his neighborhood endured a massive invasion of these harmless but annoying creatures. In addition to flocks of birds gorging themselves, squirrels and even his dog snacked on them occasionally. Probably a lot of protein there for the taking.

Winter Seminar Speaker's Latest Book

A presenter at our 2014 seminar, Marta McDowell's *All The Presidents' Gardens* tells the story of White House landscaping and the people who shaped it over the past 200 plus years. There is a rich historical depth and breadth to the book including 215 color and black and white images. While Marta's previous books on Beatrix Potter's and Emily Dickenson's garden interests were engaging, this latest effort reads almost like a novel flavored with her engaging sense of humor.



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June 2016

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

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JOE ALESSI

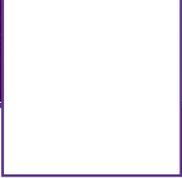
KESTER'S KRISAS

RICHARD STATES



The Germinator

June 2016



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

www.mgcy.org



Happy Father's Day
June 19th, 2016

calendar of events

June 1.....	General Mtg./Plant Auction.....	Bdmn Park.....	6:00 - 7:00 pm
June 8.....	Board Meeting.....	Austintown Library.....	6:30 pm
July 6.....	General Meeting.....	FRG.....	7:00 pm
July 13.....	Board Meeting.....	Austintown Library.....	6:30 pm
July 13-15.....	National Convention.....	Green Bay, Wisconsin	
Fri/Sat.....	CGLG Summer Convention	Wooster, Ohio	
August 3.....	Steak Fry/General Meeting	Larry Duck's home.....	6 & 7 pm
August 10.....	Board Meeting.....	Austintown Library.....	6:30 pm
August 11.....	Scrappers Ball Game	Eastwood Field, Niles OH.....	5:30 pm
August 19.....	Setup for Horticulture Show	FRG.....	12noon
August 20, 21.....	Horticulture Show	FRG.....	7:00 am
August 31.....	Canfield Fair starts	Canfield Fairgrounds.....	10 am - 10 pm
September 1-5.....	Canfield Fair.....	Canfield Fairgrounds	10 am - 10 pm
September 7.....	General Meeting.....	FRG.....	7:00 pm
September 14.....	Board Meeting.....	Austintown Library.....	6:30 pm
October 5.....	General meeting.....	FRG.....	7:00 pm
October 12.....	Board Meeting.....	Austintown Library.....	6:30 pm
October 15.....	Fall Breakfast.....	FRG.....	9:00 am
October 22.....	CGLG Meeting.....	Kingwood Gardens, Mansfield..	10:00 am
November 2.....	General Meeting.....	FRG.....	7:00 pm
November 9.....	Board Meeting.....	Austintown Library.....	6:30 pm
December 7.....	Board Meeting.....	Austintown Library.....	6:30 pm
December 14.....	Christmas Dinner.....	A La Cart, Canfield, OH.....	6:00 pm

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