

# The Germinator



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

## President's Message

Good news, fellow gardeners. Tom Arens has stepped up in a big way by volunteering to head the Winter Seminar Committee. Until we had someone to coordinate its various elements, the event was in doubt. Larry Tooker can now do what he does best – put together a quality slate of speakers that repeat attendees have come to expect.

Tom has filled another important void, that of our club's vice president. With the passing of President Paul Shanabarger, I assumed that office leaving a major club leadership vacuum. A major problem for organizations such as ours is the lack of members willing to lead. Tom's dedication is to be celebrated and we hope it will become contagious. *Thanks, Tom.*

The form enclosed in this and future *Germinator* issues will address two important issues. First, for too long we have failed to make recruits feel welcome and have not taken advantage of their potential contributions. We will now know in what areas they wish to participate. We will also need additional Membership Committee members to follow up on new members. Second, the form when submitted with next year's dues will make our Directory available in a timely manner. Save \$.50 in postage by bringing it to a membership or board meeting.

We hope all members who were able participated in our annual Horticulture Show. There may still be some slots open to man our Canfield Fair info booth. We need you there.

*Sincerely;*

*Bruce Brungard, President*

## MGCY Fall Breakfast

8:30am, Saturday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>

Fellows Riverside Gardens – Setup at 7:30am

Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage & Juice - \$5 PP

Speaker: Tom Arens - Subject: Garden Knots

RSVP Bob McGowan, 330-518-6397 by Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>



*'Capital is only the fruit of labor, and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital and deserves much the higher consideration.'*

Abraham Lincoln

*'Without labor nothing prospers.'*

Sophocles

**6:00pm**

**Wednesday, Sept. 5**

**Tour of Toth Gardens**

**5637 West Liberty St.**

**Hubbard, OH 44425**

**Directions: 330-759-1993**

**Guests Welcome**

## Board Meeting

**6:30pm, Wednesday, Sept. 12**

**Canfield Library**

**All Members Welcome**

## MetroParks In Sept.

Labor Day Golf Sale	8-31/9-3
MetroParks Farm at Fair	8/27-9/4
Trolley Tours	4,9,13,18,23,27,30
Tractor-Wagon Rides	9,16
Kokedama (Japan Garden Art)	11
Birding the Sanctuary	15
<b>Garden Forum Show</b>	<b>15-16</b>
Rock Gardening	20
Sunset at the Farm	22
Guided Bird Walk	22
Hypertufa Plaque	23
Laid-Back Cooking: Squash	25
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Birding 101: Molting	29

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

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*Helping our Valley to Grow Since 1930*

### ***New Member***

**Albert Pacella**, 118 Rocklyedge, Struthers, OH 44471, 330-707-0832. Albert is married (Josephine) and a retired auto worker. In addition to a general interest in gardening, he is a tailor.

Sponsor: Carlo Rubino

*Welcome aboard!*

### ***Prosecutor Gains Honored***

Mahoning County Prosecutor Paul Gains received a MGCY Certificate of Appreciation for his invaluable assistance in our securing the MASCO greenhouse for probably one last time. After having ordered plants and equipment for our 2018 Spring Plant Sale, Greenhouse Chair John Schinker learned that county officials were not going to allow us to use the facility. Paul stepped up and persuaded them to change their minds.

A little history regarding Paul may be in order. He worked his way through college and law school while employed as a Youngstown Police officer. During this time, he also served as president of the Fraternal Order of Police. Several years after opening his own law office, he decided to run for Mahoning County Prosecutor.

Given almost no chance of winning, he was successful in unseating the incumbent who was later exposed as probably the most corrupt Mahoning County official - and that is really saying something - ever elected to office. So valuable was this bum to organized crime that they nearly succeeded in assassinating Paul before he was sworn in thus enabling the incumbent to remain in office. Paul is now in his 6<sup>th</sup> elected term, the longest serving prosecutor in county history.

*Many thanks, Mr. Gains!*

### ***Steak Fry***

For several years now, we've met at Larry Duck's well-appointed pavilion in Poland for our annual Horticultural Show tutorial. That's the official excuse for being there, but the real attraction is the chance to chow down on great food.



With Charlie Grounds and Bob McGowan grilling the steaks, chicken and salmon, that result was assured. Add in tasty appetizers brought by several members,

side dishes and those wonderful Whitehouse pies, it was a feast fit for royalty.

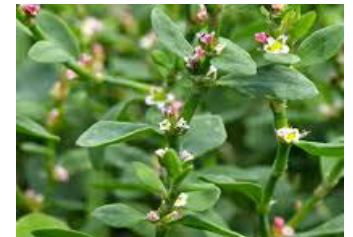
After dinner, we all loosened our belts, cracked another beer and sat back while Horticulture Show Committee Chair Rodney Toth began his presentation.

He started by reminding members assigned to show classification and clerking duties what is expected of them. This will all be repeated on the day of the show but it's good to be reminded of responsibilities only performed once a year.



As usual, Rodney displayed several exhibits and asked his audience what is right or wrong: The condition of the item; the correct number of stalks or veggies dictated by the Show Schedule; was foliage present; correct variety name; etc. He also threw in a couple of curves by including two invasive species.

Native to Europe and Asia, purple loosestrife is an ongoing problem in Mill Creek MetroParks' Newport Wetlands. It outcompetes native aquatic plants, interferes with native animal habitat, and its dense root systems change the hydrology of wetlands.



Knotweed (various species of *Polygonum*) is a native of Japan. It forms dense, persistent thickets that exclude native vegetation. It easily invades disturbed soil and, once established, is difficult to eradicate. Both plants were once sold as ornamentals with some less knowledgeable greenhouses still doing so. We once had an ill-informed membership meeting speaker who recommended planting loosestrife in garden ponds.

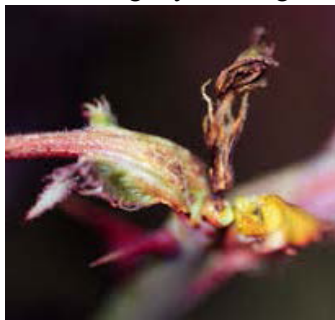
## Rose Midge

The Chinese proverb, “A thorn defends the rose, harming only those who would steal the blossom”, only goes so far. An invertebrate that has risen to the top of the *flower of love’s* most destructive enemies list is the rose midge (*Dasineura rhodophoga*). Though microscopic throughout its lifecycle, its small size belies the amount of damage and heartbreak this pest causes.

Its larvae bury themselves in the crevices at the base of new shoots and buds feeding on the epidermal tissues. New growth begins to curl eventually causing wilt, droop and eventually falling off. Eggs laid on the plant take 2 days to hatch. The larvae are white to pinkish in color, and take 5-10 days to mature. They fall to the ground, spin a cocoon and emerge in 5-7 days as adults which are less than 1/16 inch long. In Ohio, there are typically 3-4 generations per growing season.



First discovered in the U.S. in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the only effective controls were nightly fuming the



plants with tobacco smoke or mulching with tobacco leaves. When insecticides became available in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, foliar sprays and soil dredges or granules containing permethrin followed by dredges containing lambda cyhalothrin worked best.

Dredges must be applied to bare soil beneath the plant and very early in the growing season to prevent the first generation of larvae from spinning their cocoons. Biological controls involving parasitic nematodes and predatory mites proved ineffective. However, there are manual control methods for those who don't want to use chemicals that also harm beneficial insects.

Ohio State University research found that placing plastic ground cover beneath the plant prevents larvae from reaching the soil causing them to die. Another method is daily plant inspection and removing buds showing midge damage. Adult midges can only fly 50-100 feet so infected plants in your neighbor's yard should not be a threat.

## Plastic Bottle Plant Hydration

Recent items in the news have highlighted problems associated with disposable plastic drink containers. While sources may differ on statistics, even low end estimates are alarming. Americans consume billions of gallons of bottled water annually. While most is merely tap water, it is less regulated than what we drink from the faucet and costs up to 1000 times more. We can also expect to pay more for trash disposal as new landfills need to be developed by refuse companies.

Less than 20% of the bottles are recycled and it takes 400-1000 years for plastic bottles to fully degrade. China once imported a majority of our recycled plastic but has recently discontinued the practice. Ocean currents have concentrated huge islands of discarded plastic in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans creating dead zones contaminating the water and harming wildlife.

The good news is gardeners can do their small part in protecting the environment while saving money and effort when watering their plants. All you need are: 1-2 liter sized clean plastic bottles with caps attached; rubber bands or nylon cord; old nylon hosiery or weed barrier fabric; and a utility knife.



Dig a hole next to the root ball of the targeted plant deep enough to bury a bottle with the bottom end up and exposed.

Cut out the bottom and attach a layer of hose or weed barrier with cord or rubber bands. This barrier will keep out leaves and other debris. Poke holes along the side of the bottle on the side facing the root ball. Bury the bottle with the bottom up and fill with water. Soil pressure will allow only a small amount of water at a time to seep out.

Tomatoes and peppers should require 2 bottles per plant while larger perennials and shrubs may require twice that many. If you're worried about the appearance of your beds, a layer of mulch can hide the bottles. Reports of deteriorating plastics causing cancer have been discredited through medical research.



***Want to play a mean trick on someone who deserves it? Unscrew the bathroom light bulb and leave a plunger in the toilet.***

*Richard States' 2018 TGOA/MGCA Sweepstakes Photo Entries*



# The Germinator

September 2018

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

## 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

## CHARLY'S RESTAURANT

4455 Kirk Rd  
Youngstown, Oh 44515  
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## COLONIAL GARDENS

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

## 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

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3830 Starr Centre Dr  
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330-702-8270  
www.handelsicecream.com

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

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330-539-0111

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Youngstown, OH 44515  
330-759-2904

## 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

## RICHARD STATES

MGCY Member

## VERNON'S CAFE

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

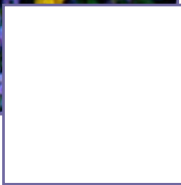
## WILD BIRDS UNLIMITED

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





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

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

## calendar of events



September 1-3	..... Canfield Fair	..... Fairgrounds	..... 9am-9pm
September 5	..... Tour of Toth Gardens	..... 5637 W. Liberty, Hubbard	..... 6 pm
September 12	..... Board Meeting	..... CPL	..... 6:30 pm
September 15	..... Fall Breakfast	..... FRG	..... 9:00 am
October 3	..... General Meeting	..... FRG	..... 7:00 pm
October 10	..... Board Meeting	..... APL	..... 6:30 pm
October 27	..... CGLG Meeting	..... Kingwood Gardens	..... 10:00 am
November 7	..... General Meeting	..... FRG	..... 7:00 pm
November 14	..... Board Meeting	..... APL	..... 6:30 pm
December 5	..... Board Meeting	..... APL	..... 6:30 pm
December 12	..... Christmas Dinner	..... A La Cart, Canf, OH	..... 6:00 pm

## Please Join Us!

The purpose of The Men's Garden Club of 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 National Men's Garden Club of America.

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

To join, contact us at: **Men's Garden Club of Youngstown Ohio**



% Membership Committee  
 123 McKinley Way  
 Youngstown, OH 44509



or on our website at [www.mgcy.org](http://www.mgcy.org)

## THE MGCY 2018 OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT**

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

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

Tom Arens

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

Vacant

**TREASURER**

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 330-518-6397 • rjfmcgowan@aol.com

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 jlfagnano@hotmail.com

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 mcbankspaint@yahoo.com

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 mgcygerminator@gmail.com  
 Dan Miller  
 Paul Iden, Photographer

2019 Membership Renewal Men's Garden Club of Youngstown

The membership renewal campaign for the 2019 year will begin in September with the goal to have the renewals completed prior to the board meeting in December. This will allow the publishing of the Membership Directory earlier in 2019.

Annual dues are \$25.00 per year.

Life/Associate dues are \$10.00 per year.

Life Memberships are available for \$210.00 per individual.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal amount: \_\_\_\_\_

To help keep our directory updated fill in those changes listed below, otherwise the information will remain the same in the next directory.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Interests (circle your interests)

Audit/Ways Means: Awards: Civic: Plant Sale: History: Horticultural:

Information Tech: Membership: Newsletter: Nominations:

Public Relations: Refreshment: Scholarship: Special Activities

Print this form and include with check made payable to "Men's Garden Club of Youngstown." bring them to our meetings or mail them to Robert McGowan, P.O.Box 724, Canfield, OH. 44406

Cash or checks will be accepted by Bob at any regular meeting.