

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

As we approach the holidays, let us stop for a moment to recognize the origin of the various religious and secular celebrations. All emphasize family, charity, love for our fellow man and recognition of a higher power. Enjoy the holidays but remember the true reasons for the season. *See page 4.*

One celebration you won't want to miss is our annual Christmas Party/President's Reception Dinner. It is a chance to get to know your fellow members in a relaxed, congenial setting. This evening of good food, great company, club awards and entertainment is an enduring tradition with our organization, and our club's way of thanking members for their contributions throughout the year.

We may have some good news soon regarding the continuation of our annual Spring Plant Sale. While use of the MASCO greenhouse is probably gone forever, our Greenhouse Committee may be on the verge of finding a suitable replacement. We'll let you know.

Also on tap is the Football Saturday at Larry Duck's beautiful pavilion in Poland.

I'd like to thank Tom Arens for his 'gardening knot' presentation at our Fall Breakfast. It was both entertaining and provided some very practical knowledge.

And let's not forget to honor present and past members of our military services whose sacrifices keep our country safe and strong.

Have a happy Thanksgiving and try not to overindulge on turkey, spirits and football.

Sincerely; *Bruce Brungard*, President

Ohio State Football Saturday

Buckeyes vs. Nebraska Cornhuskers

Saturday, Nov. 3rd – Time To Be Announced

Larry Duck's Pavillion

5471 Clingan Rd., Struthers, OH



Christman Party/President's Reception Dinner

6pm, Wednesday, December 12th

A La Cart Catering, 429 Lisbon Rd. (Rt. 62), Canfield, Oh

Menu: *To Be Announced*

Entertainment: Canfield High School Vocal Group

Price: \$20 Per Person – Check Payable to MGCY

RSVP Bob McGowan, PO Box 724, Canfield, OH, 44406 by Dec. 5

Membership Meeting

7pm, Wednesday, Nov. 7

Fellows Riverside Gardens

Speaker: Jeff Harvey

Wild Birds Unlimited

Subject: *Feeding Birds*

Guests Welcome

Board Meeting

6:30p, Wednesday, Nov. 14

Austintown Library

All Members Welcome

MetroParks In Nov.

Holiday Gardens Sale	2-4
Walk w/Woodpeckers	3
Chat w/ Naturalist	3
Dance Classes	6,13,20
Fruit/Boxwood Tree	10
Turkey Hike	10
Botanical Mornings	16
Birding the Sanctuary	17
Meet Watercolor Artists	18
Golf Shop Sale	23
Turkey Scavenger Hunt	24,25
Olde Fashioned Christmas	24,25
Santa's Winter Barn	25
Let's Dance	27

www.millcreekmetroparks.org

In This Issue

President's Message	1
Club News	2
Solving Knotty Problems.....	2
Growing Garlic	3
Composting Egg Shells	3
Membership Dues	Insert
Origins Of:	
Veterans Day	4
Thanksgiving Day	4
Sponsors	5
Club Events & Officers.....	6



New Member

Robert Pounds, 10330 Washingtonville Rd., Canfield, OH, 330-219-8263, Mysticsoul555@aol.com. Robert's spouse is Jill Snyder. He describes himself as a Jack of all trades, master of none. His gardening interests include flowers and trees. He is a member of both the Canfield and Youngstown Community Bands.

Sponsor: John Schinker

Welcome aboard!

2018 Scholarship Recipient

Desiree Pinkerton, one of our latest scholarship winners, came to our October membership meeting and was introduced by Scholarship Committee Chairman Bob Schulick. She is in her final semester of her



associate's degree at Kent State Univ. Salem, and will continue there in pursuit of a bachelor's degree in Horticulture majoring in Urban Forestry.

Congratulations!

Meeting Presentation: Growing Hops

Bob Bero enjoys growing hops for his home beer brewing hobby. Farming hops as a cash crop in this area faces a number of obstacles including expensive startup costs, lack of skilled labor and low financial return. For those who would like to try, here's how:

1. Purchase rhizomes in early Spring. Popular varieties include Amarillo, Simcoe, Citra and Mosaic.
2. Plant 6-12 inches deep, 6 ft. apart, in well drained soil when the threat of winter has passed in an area with full sun. Keep soil moist but don't over-water.
3. After emerging in 2-4 weeks, plants will start growing about a foot a day.

4. This rapid growth means providing strong support for a plant that will grow to 20 ft. Keep it well watered.

5. In late Summer, the cones will lighted and feel papery indicating it's time to harvest. If they are not brewed within the first 24 hrs., they must be slow dried in the dark using a fan then placed in airtight containers and frozen. They will be usable for up to a year.

6. Cut plant to within a foot of the ground.

Source: beerandbrewing.com

Solving a Knotty Problem

You've just purchased a barbecue grill and placed it the bed of your pickup. Now, how do you anchor it so it doesn't tip over. If you're 'Master of Knots' Tom Arens, you use a 'trucker's hitch' shown below.

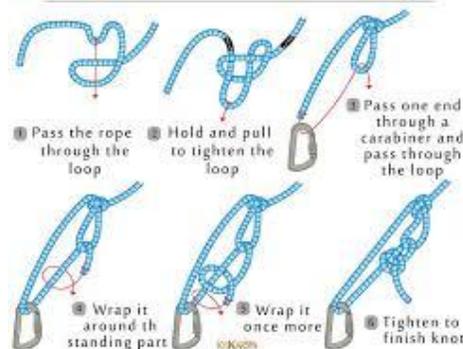
Tom admits to having psychological issues common to most gardeners – he's a compulsive do-it-yourselfer and cheap. On a recent vacation trip to Hawaii, one of his sandals began falling apart. To his wife's chagrin, he repaired it with knotted cords instead.

His Gardening Knot talk at our annual Fall Breakfast was everything a presentation should be – educational, practical and fun. He held our interest from start to finish, and had most of us vowing to better learn the art.



Tom says a knot should be easy to tie *and* untie. In addition to the trucker's hitch, the knots with the most

Trucker's Hitch Instructions



common uses are the bowline, clove hitch, and the constrictor or seizing knot.

Many thanks to Bob McGowan, Dennis Zap and the other members who prepared a great breakfast.



Vampire Repellant Don Brown



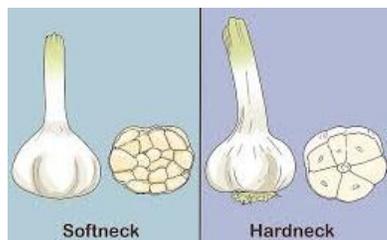
Being Hungarian on my mother's side, I grow 'vampire repellant' or, as non-believers call it, garlic (*Allium sativa*). Research uncovered an 18th century Eastern European rabies epidemic closely followed by a supposed surge in vampire activity. Infected with rabies, a human will likely drool and have a snarly facial expression – much like a vampire. He would also be 25% more likely to bite other people. Rabies also significantly enhances one's sense of smell so garlic's pungent aroma would likely disgust and repel the 'undead'.



There is some debate as to whether garlic is a spice or an herb. The truth is neither; It is a vegetable like family members onions and leeks but rarely eaten as such. However you wish to classify it, garlic is one of the world's top flavor enhancers. A French chef would likely disdain adding it to his recipes, preferring to rub it on his skillet for a lighter flavor.

In addition to adding flavor to our meals, garlic has some remarkable health benefits. They include: Weight loss; increased energy; lower blood pressure; and preventing heart attack and stroke, It is also rich in antioxidants and vitamin B6.

I traditionally harvest my garlic on July 4th and have noticed that the heads have gotten progressively smaller. It is obviously time to order some now seed. Garlic is divided into 2 groups – soft neck and hard neck. I



usually grow soft neck varieties as they typically store longer. And since I like to have garlic hanging in the kitchen, I like that soft necks are easier to braid.

Though tending to store over shorter periods, hard neck varieties usually have the advantage of larger heads and cloves, However, there is one hard neck variety, *Silver White*, said to store well and I plan to grow it next season.

One of the best web sites to learn about and order garlic is www.dyerfamilyorganicfarm.com/garlic which offers a huge variety list including detailed descriptions. Their products are handcrafted and grown organically, without any synthetic chemicals used in any part of the

process. They use organically certified seed stock in soil building, harvesting, cleaning and storage.

While garlic can be planted in spring or fall, most gardeners in this area prefer the latter. Most web sites recommend planting cloves 2 inches deep (root side down), 4-5 inches apart, and rows 2 ft. apart in pH neutral, loamy soil. Sowing should be at least 2-3 weeks before the ground freezes. Since few people I know own a functional crystal ball, do it about the same time as spring bulb planting.

We apologize for this article being less than timely but believe that there is still a small window to sow garlic successfully this year - Germinator Staff.

Composted Egg Shell Decomposition

Many gardeners are now amending their veggie beds for next year's growing season adding egg shells to the soil to add calcium and prevent blossom end rot on tomatoes. Others have been adding shells to their compost bins throughout the year. This begs the question – *How long does it take for the shells to decompose so that they can be of benefit to plants?*



Robert Pavlis, writing at www.gardenmyths.com is in the middle of a 6 year study of shell decomposition in 7.3 pH, 40% clay soil. After 3 years, he found that the shells deteriorated very little. However, egg shell finely ground in more acidic soil did break down much more quickly. It is recommended that shell membranes be dried significantly and the shell ground in a blender or food processor.

Garlic – King of Companion Gardening?

Pavlis also writes that while garlic is the plant used most in companion gardening, various international studies show the following:

52% reduction in high spider mite populations in strawberries. Another study showed reduced crop yields.

Reduced aphids in kale. Basil & marigolds did better.

No change in flea beetles when planted with cauliflower.

Garlic releases volatile oils confusing flying insects making it more difficult to find host and pollination plants.

Cucumbers showed significant increases in nitrogen, potassium, calcium and manganese – reduced magnesium.

Cabbage showed higher levels of protein and nitrate.

Soil bacteria significantly increased among pepper while fungi were significantly reduced.

The bottom line is that most of garlic's claimed benefits have not been substantiated because of a lack of verifiable scientific research. It is unknown how garlic's positive influence on soil microbes or negative influence on pests corresponds into increased crop yields. Thus we should take some gardening lore with a grain of salt.

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.



Holiday Origins



Veteran's Day

Veterans Day originated as 'Armistice Day' on Nov. 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of the Great War (later World War I) as WWII had not yet occurred. In 1926, Congress passed a resolution of annual observance and, in 1938 it became a national holiday. Unlike Memorial Day, it is a tribute to all American vets



–living or deceased – but especially thanks living vets who served honorably during war or peacetime.

In 1954, President Dwight Eisenhower officially changed the holiday's name to Veterans Day. In 1968, Congress passed a bill setting the holiday to be celebrated on the fourth Monday in October, but in 1975 President Gerald Ford returned it to the original Nov. 11.

16.1 million living vets served in at least one war.

6 million vets served in peacetime.

2 million vets are women.

7 million vets served during the Vietnam War.

5.5 million served during the Persian Gulf War.

Of the 16 million Americans who served during World War II, about 558,000 are still alive.

2 million vets served during the Korean War

As of 2014, 2.9 million vets received compensation for service connected disabilities.

The Veterans Administration system includes 171 medical centers; more than 350 outpatient, community, and outreach clinics; 126 nursing home care units; and 35 live-in care facilities for injured and disabled vets.



Thanksgiving



Sixty-six days after leaving Plymouth, England, 105 religious separatists seeking freedom of worship landed at Cape Cod, far north of their original destination at the mouth of the Hudson River. A month later, the Mayflower crossed Massachusetts Bay where the

passengers began work establishing a village at Plymouth.

Most of the colonists remained on board the ship during that first brutal winter, suffering from exposure, scurvy and contagious diseases. Only half the ship's original passengers and crew lived to see the following Spring. Upon going ashore in March, the settlers came in contact with Squanto, a Pawtuxet Native American who had learned English when kidnapped by an English sea captain who sold him into slavery.

Squanto taught the sick and starving Pilgrims how to grow corn, extract sap from maple trees, catch fish and avoid poisonous plants. He also helped the settlers forge an alliance with another local tribe, the Wampanoag, a relationship which would last more than 50 years, and one of the very few examples of harmony between European colonists and Native Americans.



In November 1621, after settler's first successful corn harvest, Governor William Bradford organized a celebratory feast and invited the colony's Native American allies. Not known as 'Thanksgiving' at the time, the festival lasted 3 days. While there is no officially recorded menu, there are indications that the colonists brought game birds (not necessarily turkeys) and the natives brought 5 deer. Contemporary deserts now associated with the holiday were very unlikely then.

A second celebration was held in 1623 after a draught had ended, and Gov. Bradford called for a religious fast. Days of fasting and thanksgiving became an annual or occasional practice throughout the New England colonies. In 1863, during the height of the Civil War, Pres. Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the *fourth* Thursday in November be celebrated as Thanksgiving Day. In 1939, Pres. Franklin Roosevelt moved the holiday to the *last* Thursday in November.

Source for both: www.history.com.

The Germinator

November 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
330-799-5569

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

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

JIMMY'S ITALIAN SPECIALTIES

3230 Belmont Avenue
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

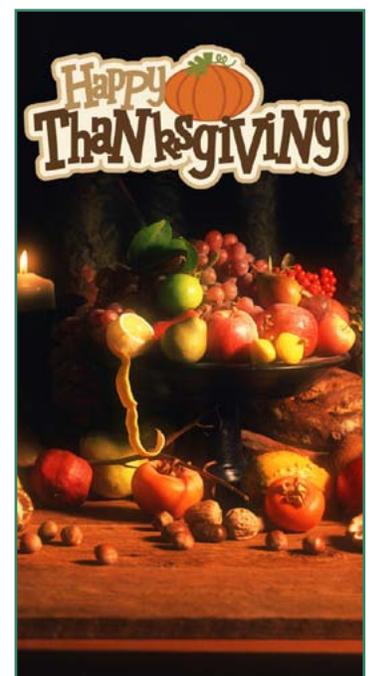
9249 Youngstown-Salem Rd
Canfield, Oh 44406
330-533-4161

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

calendar of events



- November 3.....OSU Football Party.....Larry Duck's Pavilion..... TBA
- 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 DinnerA 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

THE MGCY 2018 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Bruce Brungard

bgbhhi@live.com • 330-793-1307

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Tom Arens

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Vacant

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

GERMINATOR STAFF

David Campana, Editor
mgcygerminator@gmail.com

Dan Miller

Paul Iden, Photographer