



December 2023



The Germinator

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Holidays!,

It's hard to believe the Holidays are here already - and that means the New Year is right around the corner! I hope 2025 arrives gently for you and marks the start of a healthy New Year.

Plans are underway for our Winter Seminar, to be held once again in the DD Davis Center at Fellows Riverside Gardens on Saturday, February 15th. We're excited to work with Friends of Fellows this year and invite four nationally accredited presenters. Watch for details in January! Chairwoman Pat Murphy can use your help in making this a successful fundraiser for our club. From contacting past and prospective donors for our basket raffle to selling raffle tickets and helping with set up and clean up, there are many ways you can help - reach out to Pat and volunteer!

I hope you're planning on joining us for our Holiday Party, December 11th at A La Carte Catering. Great company, delicious food and entertainment by Davis & Penner, a great beginning to the season. See details below.

I'd like to take a moment to thank each of you for the opportunity to fill the office of president for 2025. I can't do this alone - I rely heavily on the rest of the team: Pat Murphy, Lisa Nicklash, Terry Volland, Ron Fasano and Mike Banks. I also depend on each member of the club to volunteer whenever and wherever you can. Thank you in advance for giving your time and talents to help this club continue to be a positive source of gardening information for our community.

Clare

PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION/ CHRISTMAS DINNER

**A LA Carte Catering, Canfield, OH
Wednesday, December 11th**

Meet 'N Greet - 6pm, Dinner - 6:30pm

Club Awards, Entertainment by *Davis & Penner* &

**Entrees: Stuffed Chicken Breast or Baked Salmon
or Vegetarian Lasagna. \$24 Per Person – *Guests Welcome***

Bring Your Own Liquid Refreshments

Deadline for submitting entrée choice Dec. 3rd

***We need your RSVP so that the caterer can have an accurate
attendance number to give us this discounted price.***

Send check and choice of entrée(s) to:

**Gardeners of Greater Youngstown
P.O. Box 612, North Jackson, OH 44451**

Meeting Schedule

No meeting because we're going to

**PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION/
CHRISTMAS DINNER**

A La Carte Catering

Canfield, Oh

Wednesday, December 11th

Guests Welcome

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Club Dues





Club News

New Member

Jacquelyn Jackson – She lives in Youngstown, and works in the banking industry. Her gardening interests include flowers and landscaping. She is a past recipient of the Southside Pride award (See pg. 3, ‘Seed Money’).

Welcome Aboard!



Election of Officers

Our November 12th meeting will include election of 2025 officers. Leadership is a vital element of any organization and the Gardeners of Greater Youngstown has been fortunate to have qualified people serving the club’s greater interests. Let’s keep it so by being willing to serve in a leadership position.

Committee Openings

Our organization has several unique and popular events that attract gardening enthusiasts from over a wide area. These events don’t happen spontaneously but require member input. Our committee chairpersons are asking for your help.

We will be holding our annual Winter Seminar in a few short months and it is a massive undertaking that requires all hands on deck. Contact Clare Neff to see how you can help. We’ll also need members to secure Chinese auction donations from local businesses and individuals. A form will be made available online and at meetings explaining to potential sponsors what donations will be used for including college scholarships.

Horticulture Show committee co-chairs Birt Underwood and Lisa Nicklash put a lot of effort into one of our organizations premier events and need help doing so. They encourage members to help keep this unique event going strong.

The *Germinator* committee also needs input from members, not only to write articles but suggesting topics for our clubs newsletter. Content has been basically a one person enterprise for far too long and this has to change if our newsletter is to remain fresh and representative of the membership’s interests.

We Need Your Dues ASAP

If you take pride in being a member of our organization, please pay your dues now. While the funds are important, even more so is an accurate membership roster.

The Members Have Spoken

Our membership held its election of officers at the November meeting, and while it hasn’t always been so, our organization’s leadership positions have all been filled. And that is only part of the good news because most of those elected are relatively newer members.

For any organization to remain viable and healthy, members must be willing to take responsibility for its functions, direction and activities. Many now defunct clubs under The Gardeners of America umbrella faded away because nobody was willing to assume leadership positions. The Gardeners of Greater Youngstown faced a similar problem in the past.

When we were forced to admit women to the organization, everything changed. Female newbies now hold important positions and we expect this positive trend to continue. The only potential problem is the loss of institutional memory which is an issue older members must address.

Here are the members who will lead us in 2025:

Clare Neff, President

Pat Murphy, 1st Vice President

Lisa Nicklash, 2nd Vice President

Terry Volland, Treasurer

Ron Fasano, Recording Secretary

Mike Bank, Corresponding Secretary

Most of our officers are also committee chairpersons who need your support and involvement. Let’s make 2025 a banner year in our organization’s history by being active and supportive in Gardeners of Greater Youngstown. We can begin by attending our annual President’s Reception/Christmas Dinner. It’s a great chance to gather in a fun, social way that is not only a chance to make new friends but strengthens our club.





THE

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Holiday Gifts For That Hard-To-Buy-For Gardener

When most adults are asked what they want for Christmas, you're lucky to get even a hint. It's helpful when they have hobbies and you know what equipment they presently own. Do they need something replaced or an item that will make their chosen pastime easier or more enjoyable. Here are a few suggestions for that gardener in your life.

Harvest Basket – Garrett Wade offers a nesting set of three harvest baskets. Made from double layered galvanized steel wire, harvested produce can be hosed down and drained. They can also be used for hauling away clippings, weeds and rocks. And during the off season, they're attractive enough to hold magazines and mail, or collecting and storing firewood.



Twine – Nutsene offers jute twine in this tin canister that is guaranteed not to tangle, and it can be refilled indefinitely. Filled with 400 ft. of biodegradable twine that comes in 14 colors, it is useful, timeless and good looking. The box contains 24 spools that should last even Rodney Toth a very long time.

Gardening Clogs – Available in 13 bright colors, these unisex clogs from Calzuro were designed for surgeons, nurses and doctors. They have a bump footbed that enhances circulation and is comfortable on the soles. The rubber is firm enough to protect toes from falling objects, and the treads provide excellent traction on slippery surfaces.



Rain Gauge – This heavy-duty, UV resistant polycarbonate gauge from Productive Alternatives meets National Weather Service standards. It will measure up to 11 in. of rain, sleet or snow to 2mm. With a wide top to funnel precipitation, it is the official gauge for a volunteer network of backyard weather observers who submit their daily readings.

Hose Reel – This retractable reel from Hoselink pulls easily and retracts on its own. It comes in 50 and 82 ft. versions. A guide roller guarantees that the hose spools evenly when retracting. It can be

mounted at any height eliminating back strain and bending over. Watering may take a little longer as it only comes in 1/2" diameter.



Gardener's Soap – This 100% plant-based soap from Seattle Seed. Co. has ground apricot kernels and coffee for scrubbing dirt away.

Hand and Nail Brush – This two-sided brush from Fendrihan is made from boar bristles and olive wood, and can get even the dirtiest nails squeaky clean.



Digging Trowel – This indestructible single-piece, stainless steel trowel from Wilcox slices through dirt and scoops up a better-than-average amount of dirt. Razor sharp, it will slice through a bag of soil or fertilizer. The 14" version is long enough to dig holes that usually require a shovel.

Gardening Gloves – These tough goat skin gloves from Womanswork are not bulky like leather, and will stretch and mold to one's hands. While they come in bright white, they will turn brown with age and use.



Gardening Hat – Made from wild savannah grass, this wide-brimmed hat from Tango Zulu offers generous shade and stays put thanks to a leather chin strap. It can also be used for walks on the beach and hiking, and can take a beating while holding its shape.



Weeder – Wolf-Garten Interlicken push pull weeder has a convex, double-sided blade that cuts weeds at the roots. The company sells its snap-on handles separately, ranging from short (7") for close work to long for standing. The company offers a variety of gardening tools that accommodate the handles. The tools are very durable and come highly recommended.





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'Tis The Season...

*For it is in giving that we receive. Francis of Assisi
I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all
the year.* Charles Dickens

*Every gift which is given, even though it be small, is in
reality great, if it is given with affection.* Pindar

*The Earth has grown old with its burden of care,
but at Christmas it always is young.*

*The heart of the jewel burns lustrous and fair,
and its soul full of music breaks the air.*

When the song of angels is sung. Phillip Brooks

*I once wanted to become an atheist, but I gave up –
They have no holidays.* Henny Youngman

*Supreme Court ruled that they cannot have a nativity
scene in Washington, D.C. It wasn't for religious reasons.
They couldn't find three wise men and a virgin.* Jay Leno



...And It's Coold

*Winter is the time of comfort, for good food and warmth,
for the touch of a friendly hand and for talk beside the fire:
It is the time for home.* Edith Sitwell

*How many lessons of faith and beauty we should lose, if
there were no winter in our year.* Thomas Higginson

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



New Annual Flowers & Veggies

Your seed catalogs should be arriving in the mail soon and you might want to order now as some are sure to sell out. New organic varieties are presently available online so we arbitrarily picked one, johnnyseeds.com, due to limited space and because we're lazy.

Shimmer Celosia – Well formed plumes in pastel shades of pink, peach, gold & lime that seem to shimmer in sunlight. Ht. 36-48", 4-8" plumes. Certified organic. Also check out **Sunday Bright Orange**.



Aurora Zinnia – Two-toned large (4-6") that will give you a shot at winning Largest Zinnia at the next Hort. Show. Apricot, yellow, coral, gold, orange & pink dahlia-shaped blooms. 30-40" tall. Also **Ballerina**.

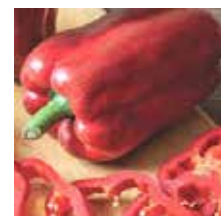


Double Frappe Light Pink 2 Snapdragon – Lt. pink double flower uniform blooms preferring early spring & fall's cooler temps & lower sunlight. 30-40" tall. Also check out **Potomac Cherry Rose**, **Potomac Ivory** & **Monoco Orange**.



Coco Deep Orange Marigold – Tall, sturdy stems (36-42") w/2½-4" dark orange uniform blooms. Edible flowers cooked or in salads (flower base should be removed due to bitterness) with hint of citrus & spice.

Frodo Bell Pepper – Extra large (5-6" long) blocky bell popular in Southern Europe & California for taste & appearance. Sturdy plants w/good leaf cover. Disease resistant. May not do well in colder climates unless grown in tunnels.



Gatsbi Lettuce – High performance, gem type, slow to bolt & strong tip burn resistance. Can be grown summer thru winter. Larger frame provides protection from extreme temps. Resistant to downy mildew, lettuce leaf aphid & mosaic.



Sophy Zucchini – Improved yields & added virus resistance. Mostly spineless & open plant structure. Excellent for harvest at small size with blossoms attached. Resistant to ringspot, watermelon & zucchini yellow mosaic viruses.





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**Thank you to the Gardeners of Greater Youngstown's Friends for their Civic Fund donations.
Members are urged to give them a visit.**

Agnew Lawn & Garden
7700 Market St
Boardman, Ohio 44512
330.758-.114
www.agnewfarm.com

Amish Market
6121 South Ave.
Boardman, Ohio 44512
330.248.7034
www.theamishmarket.net

Baird Brothers
7060 Crory Rd.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330.533.3122
info@bairdbrothers.com

Blooming Crazy
8277 Market St.
Youngstown, Ohio 44512
330-758-8131
www.bloomingcrazyflowers.com

Bluestone Perennials
7211 Middle Ridge Rd.
Madison, Ohio 44057
www.bluestoneperennials.com

Bread Chef
800 E Western Reserve Rd
Youngstown, Ohio 44514
330-729-9900

Buckeye Therapeutic Massage
545 N. Broad Street
Canfield, OH, 44406
330.402.7303
www.buckeyetherapeuticmassage.net

Burton Floral & Garden
13020 Kinsman R.,
Burton, OH, 44021
www.burtonflorallandgarden.net

Colonial Gardens
1419 Youngstown-Kingsville Rd.
Vienna, Ohio
330-539-5500
www.colonialgardensohio.com

Marketplace at Creekside Gardens
3680 N River Rd NE
Warren, Ohio 44484
330.856.1641
<https://www.creekside-gardens.com/>

Crouse True Value Hardware
1178 Market St.
North Lima, Ohio 44452
330-549-2144
www.truevaluetrains.com

Davidson's Restaurant
3636 Canfield Rd.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-793-0030

Delaquadri Lawn Maintenance
1270 Trumbull Ave.
Girard, Ohio 44420
330-759-3121
www.delaquadrilandscape.com

DJ's Greenhouse
1004 East Lake Rd.
Transfer, Pennsylvania 16154
724-962-1230
www.djsgreenhouse.com

Edward Jones Salem, John Wise
2380 Southeast Blvd.
Suite B
Salem, Ohio 44460
877.335.9521

Elliot's Garden Center
1283 W. Western Reserve Rd.
Youngstown, Ohio 44514
330-758-8889
www.elliottsgardencenter.com

Frame Depot Gallery
1043 Youngstown Warren Rd
Niles, Ohio 44446
330.652.7865
theframedepotgallery.godaddysites.com/

Gardening-Indoor
9215 Market St.
North Lima, Ohio 44452
330-758-0272
www.gardening-indoors.com

Gilmore's Greenhouse
2774 Virginia Ave SE
Warren, Ohio 44484
330.369.4515
www.gilmoresgreenhouse.com

Handel's Homemade Ice Cream Niles
5140 Youngstown Warren Rd
Niles, Ohio 44446
330.505.0865
<https://handelsicecream.com/>

Heritage Country Store
364 Lisbon St.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-5551
www.heritagecountrystore.com

Home Again Consignment Furniture
7689 South Ave.
Boardman, Ohio 44512

L & M Greenhouse
43091 Columbiana-Waterford Rd,
Columbiana, Ohio 44408
330.482.3209
www.lmgreenhouse.com

Lowe's Home Improvement
940 Niles Cortland Rd SE,
Warren, Ohio 44484
330.609.8000

L'Uva Bella Winery
6597 Center Rd
Lowellville, Ohio 44436
330.536.6450
<https://luvabella.com>

Outdoor Recreation Equipment
5316 Market St.
Boardman, Ohio
330-782-2004

Parks Garden Center
9010 Youngstown-Salem Rd.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-7278
parksgardencenter@aol.com

Piccadilly Parlour
114 S Broad St,
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330.533.4749
<https://piccadillytearoom.com>

Petitti Garden Center
5509 South Ave.
Boardman, Ohio 44512
330-788-0733
www.petittigardencenter.com

Dennis Toth
Tractor Supply
6225 Mahoning Ave.
Austintown, Ohio 44515
330-792-8235

Southside Community Garden
Lois Martin-Uscianowski
Member
330.727.8340

Village Ace Hardware
10395 Main St,
New Middletown, Ohio 44443
330.542.2802

Village Quilts
17 W. Main Street
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-0545
www.villagequiltscanfield.com

Whitehouse Fruit Farms
9249 Youngstown-Salem Rd.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-4161
www.whitehousefruitfarm.com

Youngstown Cityscape
250 E Federal St
Suite 432
Youngstown, Ohio 44503
330-742-4040
<https://youngstowncityscape.org>



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Gardeners of Greater Youngstown
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MERRY CHRISTMAS

Calendar of Events



December 11 Annual Holiday Party.....6:00PM..... A La Cart Catering
Jan. 7, 2025 Board Meeting 5:30PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
Jan. 7, 2025 Membership Mtg 7:00PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
Feb. 4, 2025 Board Meeting 5:30PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
Feb. 4, 2025 Membership Mtg 7:00PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
Feb. 15, 2025 Winter Seminar 9:00AM Davis Center, Fellows Gardens
March 4, 2025 Board Meeting 5:30PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
March 4, 2025 Membership Mtg 7:00PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park

Please Join Us!

The purpose of the Gardeners of Greater 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.

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 Gardeners of America.

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

To join, contact us at: Gardeners of Greater Youngstown
% Membership Committee P.O. Box 612
North Jackson, OH 44451
or on our website at www.gg-yo.org



THE GOGY 2023 OFFICERS

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