

The Germinator



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

President's Message

First of all, I want to invite all members and their guests to our annual Christmas Party/President's Reception Dinner. It is an event that thanks our members for their service to our organization during the past year. Past attendees will tell you the event gives us a chance to socialize while enjoying great food and entertainment. The agenda includes our club's top awards. Deadline for reservations is Dec. 1st.

Second, I want to thank all of you who have paid their 2020 dues in a timely manner. This goes a long way toward our knowing what funds will be available for our club's activities in the coming year. If you haven't done so as yet, please come to the December 4th meeting and fill out the attached questionnaire that will help us determine your preferences for serving in our organization. If you can't make the meetings, please send your check to Bob McGowan at the Christmas announcement address.

Third, we need your involvement in our Winter Seminar in February. Of utmost importance is recruiting sponsors for our Chinese Auction. Approach businesses you regularly patronize and tell them about our organization. We'll have handouts explaining our need for donations at upcoming meetings, or you can print them from inserts in the January and February *Germinator* editions.

Lastly, I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to serve as your president. While the circumstances that led to my assuming the office were less than any of us would have desired, I learned so much during my tenure and am humbly appreciative of the assistance unselfishly given by so many of you. I hope my successor, Tom Arens, is so fortunate.

Our sympathy and best wishes go out to Gardeners of Greater Cleveland's Tom Davis whose wife, Jane, passed away recently. If you attended the 2018 national convention, you'll appreciate the fine work Tom and his fellow members did in putting on an outstanding event.

With the holiday season upon us, I want to wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely;
Bruce Brungard, President

Christmas Party/President's Reception Dinner

Wednesday, December 11th, 5:30pm, Dinner at 6pm

A La Carte Catering Hall, Canfield, OH

Menu: *Chicken Cordon Bleu or Stuffed Pork Chop, Wedding Soup, Spinach Salad, Twice Baked Potato, Wine & Desert*

Entertainment: **Acoustic Guitar Duo**

Top Awards Poinsettias for the Ladies

Contact Bob McGowan, 330-518-6397 or rjmcgowan@aol.com, or send \$20 check per person with menu choice to P.O Box 724, Canfield, OH 44406

Deadline for response: Dec. 1st

Board Meeting

6:30pm, Wednesday, Dec. 4th

Austintown Library

All Members Welcome

Membership Meeting

Cancelled due to Christmas Party. Hope to see you there.



MetroParks In November

Mahoning Historical Society:

Memories of Valley 1-30

Winter Celebration:

The Magical Woods 1-30

Olde Fashioned Christmas 1

Santa's Winter Barn (Farm) 1

Remembering Volney Rogers 3,9

Photo Clique: Sharing Shots 7

Winter Nights 7,14,21,28

12 Days of Christmas Sale 10-21

Laid Back Cooking: Strudels 10

Photo Clique: The Right One 11

Breakfast w/Santa 14

Big Christmas Golf Sale 22

Winter Scavenger Hunt 26-31

For All Events & Details, Go To

millcreekmetroparks.org

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Club News

WWW.MGCY.ORG
62 Members

Latest Changes to TGOA/MGCA

The following information was gleaned from the TGOA/MGCA September/October newsletter. At this *Germinator* issue's print time, the vote among all members of our national body goes on. It is likely, however, that a majority will vote to close the national headquarters in Iowa and its functions will be moved to the Ohio State Univ. campus in Wooster, OH.



During 2018, the cost of headquarters staff, maintenance and operations ran a deficit of over \$72,000. The difference was covered by Endowment and Investment (E & I) Fund. While some members want to bleed that fund, currently \$443,000, until it is completely depleted, this would put the national's 501 c3 status with the IRS in jeopardy.

The cost of operating out of Wooster, hopefully fully manned by member volunteers, would be about \$2000 per year. A committee of past and present officers is working to find ways to further match income with expenditures while maintaining as many of our traditional activities as possible.

The committee voted to forego presenting a scholarship this year but several members stepped up and privately raised \$2000. They also voted to discontinue selling calendars. The annual photo contest will continue and possibly be expanded. Gardening-From-The-Heart and the Children's Gardening programs will be continued. The status and future of the E & I fund remains one of its major concerns.

The reorganization will require the input and cooperation of all members. The committee asks for your patience and assistance.

MGCY Holiday Tree At Fellows

We will be decorating our Christmas tree contribution to Fellows Riverside Gardens Holiday festivities at 12 noon, Tuesday, Nov. 26th. Bring your dried garden or nature articles and join the fun.



Helping our Valley to Grow Since 1930

Scholarship Winner's Presentation

Christopher Thompson, winner of both our club's and the national's 2019 college scholarships, was the speaker at our November membership meeting. His subject, 'Pollinators In Ohio', provided some very interesting information.



90% of native bees live alone or in small colonies. They visit 20,000 to 100,000 blossoms per day where as honey bees visit only 50 to 100.

Butterflies and flies have odor receptacles on their feet. Moth species outnumber butterflies 9 to 1. Beetles are ancient animals going back 300 million years, and they pollinate 88% of plant species. Wasps are not only pollinators but also efficient predators of pest insects. Hummingbirds require half their weight in sugar daily.

Deforestation, mono-culture farming and competition from non-natives are prime reasons for pollinator decline. We can help them by installing native plants including early and late-blooming species, putting up bee boxes and having vegetation debris piles where native pollinators can nest and overwinter.

Chris is a senior at Kent State – Salem majoring in Horticulture/Urban Forestry. He has a special interest in the agricultural activities of various cultures, and is seeking an internship in Ghana.

Winter Seminar Speakers

Our annual seminar has an all-star presenter lineup that you'll not want to miss. MGCY members will get a discount if they participate as 'table captains'.

Kristen Kurtz – Manager of the Cornell Univ. Soil Lab and Soil Artist.

Dave Shetlar, PhD (*The Bug Doc*) – Retired Entomology professor, OSU Agricultural Tech Institute.

Laura Deeter, PhD (*The Garden Hoe*) – Professor of Horticulture Technologies, OSU Agriculture Inst.

George Weigel – Noted Pennsylvania garden writer and certified horticulturist.

Tom's Garden Blog

At print time of last month's *Germinator*, we didn't know the author of articles stolen from *Tom's Garden Blog*. Well, the mystery has been solved. Fellow member Tom Liggett has started passing on his significant gardening experience and, if you want to take advantage of this source, email your name and email address to ligtom@gmail.com.

Recent Items From *Garden Myths*

We have long been intrigued with articles from gardenmyths.com because they often go against the grain of conventional thinking and long-held beliefs. We offer no opinion as to the validity of the information and only print short synopses of the articles as food for thought and entertainment.

Does Roundup Cause Cancer

Monsanto's (Bayer) herbicide Roundup (active ingredient glyphosate) has been the subject of considerable debate as a possible cause of several cancers. A jury recently awarded a man suffering from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma \$289M which was reduced to \$78M on settlement in lieu of appeal.



The article states that jury members with little or no scientific training based their verdict on preconceived ideas, popular conceptions and prejudices while ignoring science-based facts. The plaintiff's own doctors agreed that the cause of the cancer was unknown. The fact that the plaintiff was significantly younger than the average victim of this type of cancer weighed heavily on juror's minds. In fact, 90% of these types of cancers stem from unknown causes.

A 2015 report from the International Agency for Research of Cancer stated that glyphosate is "probably carcinogenic". In effect, this means there is not enough evidence to label the chemical as cancer-causing. By the way, this same agency has classified alcohol, bacon and painting your house as causing cancer. The only reason Sherman-Williams, Oscar Meyer and Jim Beam have not been sued is because there is a lack of "emotion" against these products.

Fifteen other agencies including the EPA, World Health Organization, and the European Food Safety have concluded there is no evidence that glyphosate causes cancer. While the chemical has been found in drinking water and mother's milk, trace amounts of potentially harmful chemicals can be found anywhere and in anything. There are over 18,000 pending law suits against Monsanto which the *Garden Myths'* author attributes to scientific facts being overcome by emotion and greed.

A responder pointed out that glyphosate kills beneficial microbes in the soil requiring increased use of fertilizers, adding that research has shown that larger and more nourishing crop yields result from less pesticide, herbicide and fertilizer use. He also expressed concern that human and animal digestive microbes are negatively affected by this chemical. His feeling was that anything that kills a naturally occurring organism will negatively influence the local ecosystem in some manner.

Don't Buy These Products

Bone Meal Organic Fertilizer – While this amendment is routinely recommended for gardens especially when planting bulbs, it only adds phosphorus which most soils have in abundance.

Jiffy peat pellets – Also called Jiffy-7, they are a convenient way to start seeds. The small pellets expand when water is added. The problem is that they don't decompose and add little to the nutrition of seedlings.

Vitamin B1 for plants – An additive to many fertilizers and products, it is advertised as a miracle drug that makes for bigger plants especially after transplanting. It doesn't work.

Landscape weed barrier cloth – Not only does it not keep weeds out of the garden, but it can prevent water from reaching plant roots.

Square foot gardening box – While having become popular recently as a way to grow in confined spaces, it makes no sense to purchase a plastic box for this purpose.

Fish fertilizer – The hype is that special proteins and oils will encourage faster, enhanced growth. The problem is that it doesn't begin to benefit plants until it bio-degrades into useful nutrients just like any organic fertilizer. Compared to other organic fertilizers, the price is prohibitive.



Soil pH testers – They are not accurate enough to be of much use.



Blossom end rot sprays – Most of these sprays add calcium, the deficiency popularly believed to cause this disease peppers, squash, cucumbers, melons and tomatoes. This is only partially true.

Blossom end rot occurs during wide fluctuations in rain, most often by an unusually wet spring followed by dry summer. The best prevention is adding egg shells to the soil and maintaining adequate hydration during hot, dry weather.



Mycorrhizal fungi inocular products – While mycorrhizae are essential to plant growth, it occurs naturally in soils. In addition, there is a good chance the organisms will have died between production and use.

One great feature of Garden Myths is feedback from those who read its articles, be it negative or positive.

Holiday Gifts For Gardeners

We visited several online retailers and found some interesting Christmas gift suggestions for gardeners. We are not providing the sites because some sites add significant markups in addition to the stated price. These charges may be at least partially due to recent tariffs.

Bahama Flats Hat – Take a cue from Rodney Toth and protect your neck.



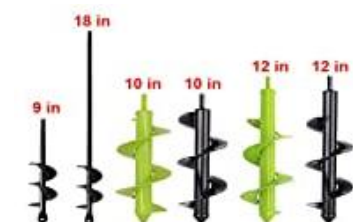
Melanoma ain't pretty.

Plant markers - Know what you planted where. You can make your own but you know what will happen. They will likely fail and what you thought were sweet peppers may haunt



you the morning after you eat them.

Seat/Kneeler – Some jobs require sitting while others require a prayer position. Just flip it over. Hope your pruners don't fall out of the pockets.



Auger Bit Set – Great for planting bulbs and bedding plants. If your power drill has a 'hammer' setting, you might need it.

Pruning Gloves – No matter your experience or skill level, you're going to get nicked cutting back stubborn limbs. Save some skin.



water at the base of plants to avoid water borne diseases while saving on water bills.

Expandable Hose – A perfect companion to the watering wand is a light, compact and easily stored hose.



Garden Hose Washers – Buying in bulk will save you money and, if you don't use them all in your lifetime, you can will them to your heirs.



Waterproof Garden Shoes – Keep feet dry and avoid toe nail fungus and athlete's foot.



Some Holiday Cheer

Christmas is a baby shower that went totally overboard.

Andy Borowitz

My husband's idea of getting the Christmas spirit is to become Scrooge.

Melanie White

There are 17 more shopping day 'til Christmas. So, guys, that means 16 more days 'til we start shopping.

Conan O'Brien



Nothing is as mean as giving a little child something useful for Christmas.

Kim Hubbard

For Christmas this year, try giving less. Start with less attitude. There's more than enough of that in the world as it is – and people will usually just give it back anyway.

Shirley Temple

Santa Claus wears a red suit so he must be a communist, and a beard and long hair so he must be a pacifist. And what's in that pipe he's smoking.

Arlo Guthrie

Nothing says 'holiday' like a cheese log.

Ellen DeGeneres

Christmas is a time when kids tell Santa what they want and adults pay for it. Deficits are when adults tell the government what they want and their kids pay for it.

Richard Lamm

He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree.

Roy L. Smith

Christmas is the season when you buy this year's gifts with next year's money.

Author Unknown

And for our friends who celebrate them – Happy Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and Omisoka.

_____ 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 \$215.00 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 (CHECK 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.

The Germinator

December 2019

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

AMISH MARKET

6121 South Ave
Boardman, Oh. 44512
330-248-7034
www.theamishmarket.net

BAIRD BROTHERS

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

BLOOMING CRAZY

8277 Market Street
Youngstown, OH 44512
330-758-8131

BERNARD DANIELS LUMBER

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

BREAD CHEF

880 E Western Reserve Rd
Yo., Oh 44514
330-729-9900

BLUESTONE PERENNIALS

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

BUCKEYE THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

Debbie Gonda
545 N. Broad St
Canfield, Oh.
330-402-7303
buckeyetherapeuticmassage.net

CHARLY'S RESTAURANT

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

COLONIAL GARDENS

1419 Youngstown-Kingsville Rd
Vienna, Oh
330-539-5500

CREEKSIDE FITNESS

1419 Boardman Canfield Rd
Yo., Oh 44512
330-758-0667

CROUSE TRUE VALUE HARDWARE

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

DJ'S GREENHOUSE

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

ELLIOT'S GARDEN CENTER

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

FIVE POINTS DELUXE CAR WASH

2271 E. Western Reserve Rd.
330-757-4023

GARDENING-INDOOR

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

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

HERITAGE COUNTRY STORE

364 Lisbon St
Canfield, Oh 44406
330-533-5551

HOT PEPPER WAX

305 Third St.
Greenville, PA 16125
Phone: 800 627-6840
sales@hotpepperwax.com

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

KRIDLER GARDENS

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

KUSHNER'S GARDEN & PATIO

2421 E. Western Reserve Road
Youngstown, OH 44514

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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

PETITTI GARDEN CENTER

5509 South Ave
Boardman, Oh 44512
330-788-0733
www.petittigardencenter.com

PITMOSS

2603 Duss Avenue
Ambridge, PA 15003
724-385-0413
www.pitmoss.com

ROBERT MCGOWAN, LPL FINANCIAL

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

SAM'S WEDGE INN

1685 S. Raccoon Rd.
Austintown, Oh 44515
samswedginn.com

RICHARD STATES MGCY Member

RICHARD STATES

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

VILLAGE QUILTS

17 W Main St
Canfield, Oh 44406
330-533-0545
www.villagequiltscanfield.com

WAGS N WIGGLES RESORT

7910 Akron-Canfield Rd (224)
Canfield, Oh 44406
330-702-9247

WALLYGRO LLC

Kansas City, MO 64116
1.877.796.6559
hello@wallygro.com

WHITEHOUSE FRUIT FARMS

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

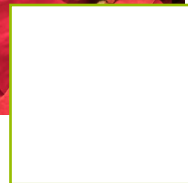
WILD BIRDS UNLIMITED

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



December 4DUES FOR 2020 TO BE PAID.....Bob McGowan

December 4Board MeetingAPL 6:30 pm

December 11Christmas DinnerA La Cart 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

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