



The Germinator

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to All of You.

I hope all of you, like me, are looking forward to a year filled with the return of some traditional events as well as new activities, opportunities and collaborations. 2022 represents the rebirth of our club: a new name, and new membership composition.

The 2021 President's Reception was a success, thanks to Ron Fasano and others who contributed. Also kudos to Chuck and Jen Lahotsky, Chuck's Greenhouse, for donating the poinsettias for lady guests. Of note at the event was the installation of the first woman in the club's history as a first vice-president: Clare Neff. Clare has already been of much assistance to the club, and I look forward to working with her in the coming year.

Because of our collaboration with Flying High at its Urban Farm in 2021, we are positioned to use the MASCO greenhouse again, (on South Ave) for our spring plant sale. Linda Biggs, a new member who will be coordinating our activities there. We will also be using the Leonard Kirtz greenhouse, and Bruce Brungard will coordinate the work at that site.

We will be participating in the Tri-County Home Show at the Metroplex in Liberty on Jan 21, 22, and 23. We will hang a banner with our new name and logo. We will offer free seeds, and some gardening handouts. Anyone who has leftover seeds (no older than one year) should bring them to our January membership meeting. We will also need members to sign up to work the show.

At the January meeting I want members who would like shirts and/or hats with our new logo to place an order at that time. Contact me if you can't make the meeting but want to place an order.

Save the date: On March 5, 2022 GOGY will host a half-day seminar at the Davis Center. So far we have scheduled Laura Deter from OSU's Agricultural Institute, and are looking for one more speaker.

Just a reminder: Members who are not vaccinated should wear a mask at meetings.

I hope to see many of you in the new year. It promises to be a happy one.



Tom Arens

Meeting Schedule

Fellows' Riverside Gardens

Board Meeting

5:30pm, Wednesday, Jan. 5th

All Members Welcome

Membership Meeting

7pm, Wednesday, Jan. 5th

Speaker: Taylor Deland

2021 Scholarship Winner

will discuss *Amaranthus Caudatus*

(Love-Lies-Bleeding)

Guests Welcome

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Gardeners of Greater Youngstown Award Recipients



l-r: Bruce Brungard, John Schinker, Tom Arens, Tom Liggett, Dave Campana, Clare Neff & Terry Voland



(See Genesis 3) 12-30-2013
REMEMBER THAT NEW YEAR RESOLUTION YOU MADE TO TRY NEW THINGS?

I release all things from the past year that has caused any negative attachment. I prepare and welcome new changes, new lessons and new adventures. I welcome new opportunities to grow emotionally, mentally and spiritually.

Namaste The Buddah Way

The Germinator

CLUB NEWS

58 Members

A Festival of Trees

Mill Creek MetroParks' 20th Winter Celebration, back after a year's hiatus, began on December 4th and will continue through January 7th at Fellows Riverside Gardens. While the venue's regular hours are 10am – 5pm every day except Mondays, visitors can tour the lighted pathways until 7pm during the first three Saturdays. This year's theme is 'A Festival of Trees'.

Anyone who appreciates a well-decorated Christmas tree won't want to miss the 55 beautifully adorned evergreens at the Davis Center sponsored and embellished by a variety of clubs, charities and agencies. As it's done for several years, the focus of our organization's tree was Nature's bounty of flowers, grasses and naturally occurring elements.

Dried for preservation, decorations included amaranthus and hydrandea varieties, grasses, celosia, frosty miller, winterberry, pink and yellow statice, white and purple beautyberry and pine cones.

Gardeners of Greater Youngstown members showed their Christmas spirit and dedication by turning out in



greater numbers than ever before. They included Tom Arens, Mike Banks, Bruce Brungard, Dave Campana, Dave Causer, John Fox, Tom Liggett, John Schinker, and Rodney Toth. Linda Arens brought baked orange slices that made beautiful ornaments. It was a great start to the holiday season.

Central Great Lakes Region

In addition to being elected to serve as Gardeners of Greater Youngstown's president for a third term, Tom Arens has been elected the region's president for 2022. Other members of our organization who have also held that office are John Schinker and Rodney Toth.

Member Tom Liggett, editor of *Tom's Garden Blog*, will become editor of *The Johnny Appleseed Journal*, the regions newsletter. Joe Alessi also served as region editor for several years.

Spring Plant Sale Greenhouses

After losing access to Mahoning County's Developmental Disabilities Workshop greenhouse on Bev Rd. several years ago, our organization was hard put to find a suitable replacement. It is now our good fortune to have access to two facilities to grow annuals for the sale. FlyingHigh Rehabilitation Services will take charge of the Bev. Rd. facility and has given us access. Linda Biggs will coordinate activities there. Email her at ljbigsy@gmail.com if you want to help out. Here she is with her husband, Kip, receiving a poinsettia at Christmas Dinner.



Bruce Brungard will be in charge of the MCDDD Leonard Kirtz School greenhouse where Plant Sale annuals will also be grown. If you want to help there, email him at bgbhhi@live.com.

Winter Seminar

Planning for our annual seminar on March 5th is well underway and a committee selected. Ohio State University's Laura Deeter will be one of two speakers and, as always, we look forward to her high-energy presentation. As planning continues, more members will be needed to participate during the planning stage as well as the event. If you wish to help, email Tom Arens at mansell713@sbcglobal.net.

Official GOGY Logo

Our organization's new logo will soon adorn shirts, caps and other items. It will also be available at local tattoo parlors.



The Germinator

GOGA President's Reception Dinner

The dinner, also known as the Gardeners of Greater Youngstown Christmas Party, is a reward to members for their dedication to our organization and to recognize those who went above and beyond. It is also a chance for us to get to know one another on a more casual and personal level. This year's well-attended event included delicious food served by Ala Carte Catering in Canfield, great entertainment by the Davis and Penner guitar duo, and a chance to mingle with interesting, friendly people. You should have been there.

As is the tradition, President Tom Arens greeted guests as they arrived. He has the relaxed, friendly demeanor that has served him well during his two years in office, guiding our organization through the twin challenges of Covid and coed. While these issues are still with us, we are fortunate that Tom decided to become proactive when he did, and lucky that he has agreed to a third term.



After attendees socialized, found their tables and began imbibing in their BYOBs, Master of Ceremonies Rodney Toth took the dais and asked us to remember outstanding members Don Brown, Dan Burns and Charlie Grounds who passed away since the last dinner. During the invocation, Rodney read 'A Thanksgiving Garden', a play on words appropriate for the audience's common interest: *Peas in our hearts; Squash selfishness; Lettuce be kind; Turnip to help one another; Thyme for friends.*

Like all organizations focused on a common interest, our membership participation runs the gambit - some belong in name only while others contribute the minimum due to limited time or interest. The following members gave the most during the past two years and their contributions were recognized with club awards:

Bruce Brungard, *Heritage Award*, for serving as president and anchoring numerous committees for ten years.

Dave Campana, *Heritage Award*, for over ten years editing our newsletter, *The Germinator*.

Tom Liggett, *Communication Award*, for editing *Tom's Garden Blog*, whose readership is ever growing.

John Schinker, *Certificate of Honor*, for his service as our president, organizing and running our Plant Sale greenhouse, and for being one of our most important and influential members.

Tom Arens, *Certificate of Appreciation*, for serving two presidential terms and organizing our Winter Seminar.

Dan Miller, *Certificate of Appreciation*, for years as our technology guru.

Clare Neff, *Certificate of Appreciation*, for technology assistance and now our first woman officer.

Terry Voland, *Certificate of Appreciation*, for serving as our treasurer and on many committees.

After the awards presentations, our 2022 officers were sworn by John Schinker. They are Tom Arens, president; Clare Neff, first vice president; John Schinker, second vice president; Terry Voland, treasurer; and Mike Banks, recording and corresponding secretary.



l-r: Tom Arens, Clare Neff, Terry Voland, Mike Banks & John Schinker



A special thanks to Ron Fasano for organizing the dinner, Chuck and Jen Lahotsky for providing the lady's poinsettias and Davis and Penner who played long after the Ala Carte staff would have preferred but to our enjoyment.

January is a time when we resolve to change and enhance areas of our lives that we'd like to become more fulfilled. This could mean becoming more involved in club activities. We hope this includes attending next year's event. We had a great time. *yashuddabeenthere.*

The Germinator

Hellebores – Christmas/Lenten Rose

While robins are recognized as the harbingers of spring among animals, hellebores maintain that position as one of the first plants to flower. There are about 15 species within the *Hellebours* genus, the most common are *H. niger* (Christmas rose) and *H. orientalis* (Lenten rose). There are numerous cultivars as these plants are readily hybridized. Despite their name, hellebores are not members of the rose family.

Hellebore's uniqueness includes a checkered past. It is toxic and can cause skin irritation from prolonged exposure so gloves and long sleeved shirts are recommended. In fact, the first known use of chemical warfare occurred in 585 BC when it was used to poison a water system in ancient Greece. The residents of Kirrha fell ill and were unable to defend their city. The plant is also the possible cause of Alexander the Great's death. The good news is that deer and rabbits avoid them.

The plants are somewhat difficult to start from seed so plants are usually 2-3 years old when purchased. As with most hybrids, seedling flower color may vary from mother plants. The 3-4 inch flowers include cultivars ranging from pure white to dark, almost black purple with multiple shades of pink, green, yellow and red. Some with edge shading and interesting color patterns *are available*.



Installation should be about 16 or more inches apart in well-drained soil with compost throughout the planting area. Mature plants will grow to 18-24 inches tall by 24-30 inches across. Hellebores need little fertilization with an application of compost or a light sprinkle of slow release fertilizer in spring.

In the first couple years after planting, the plants will produce few flowers but, once established, can bloom up to 50 flowers. Foliage will remain green most of the year. They do well in shaded areas and work well with hostas as boarder plants.

Flowers will last for up to 2 months on the plant. Vase life is long, but flowers should not be cut until the stamens fall off and the flower feels papery and stiff. While usually hardy in our zone, harsh spring weather may damage flowers and leaves. Just remove the damage ones and the plant will quickly send out new growth.

Source: buckeyeyard&gardenonline@osu.edu

More info: <http://web.extension.illinois.edu>

Starting A New, Clean Slate

We spend January 1 walking through our lives, room by room, drawing up a list of work to be done, cracks to be patched.
Ellen Goodman

We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day.

Edith Lovejoy Pierce

Do not dwell in the past, do not dream of the future. Concentrate the mind on the present moment.

Buddha

Ring out the old, ring in the new;

Ring, happy bells, across the snow.

The year is going, let him go;

Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Alfred Lord Tennyson

I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past.

Thomas Jefferson



Many years ago, I made a New Year's resolution to never make New Year's resolutions. Heck, it's been the only resolution I've ever kept.

D. S. Mixell

The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide you're not going to stay where you are.

J. P. Morgan

An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves.

Bill Vaughn

New Year's Day – now is the accepted time to make your annual good resolutions. Next week you can begin paving the road to hell with them as usual.

Billy Crystal

Good resolutions are simply checks that men draw on a bank where they have no account.

Oscar Wilde

I would quit all my bad habits for the new year, but then I remember that nobody likes a quitter.

Unknown

The Germinator

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

Ace Hardware Canfield

413 E. Main St.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-7464

Amish Market

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

Baird Brothers

7060 Croy Rd.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-3122
info@bairdbrothers.com

Bernard Daniels Lumber

260 Railroad St.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-2211
www.bdlumber.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
330-729-990

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.burtonfloralandgarden.net

Charly's Restaurant

4455 Kirk Rd.
Youngstown, Ohio 44515
330-799-5569

Colonial Gardens

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

DeIanni Imports

2770 Hilltop Dr.
Napa, California 94558
www.gardenclogs.com

DJ's Greenhouse

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

Elliot's Garden Center

1283 W. Western Reserve Rd.
Youngstown, Ohio 44514
330-758-8889

Garden Artisans

451 Defense Highway, Ste. A
Annapolis, Md. 21401
www.gardenartisans.com

Greenstar Cooperative

12093 Lisbon Rd.
Greenford, Ohio 44422
800-423-3609

Gardening-Indoor

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

Handel's Ice Cream

3830 Starr Centre Dr.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-702-8270
www.handelsicecream.com

Handyman Hardware & Supply

4351 Kirk Rd.
Youngstown, Ohio 44511
330-793-1268
www.handymanaustintown.com

Hartford Orchards

6953 OH-305
Hartford, Ohio 44424
330-772-2100

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

Home Depot

7001 Southern Blvd.
Boardman, Ohio 44512
330-965-4790

Hot Pepper Wax

305 Third St.
Greenville, Pennsylvania 16125
800-627-6840
sales@hotpepperwax.com

Jack's Custom Landscape

Boardman, Ohio 44512
330-953-7737

Jimmy's Italian Specialties

3230 Belmont Ave.
Youngstown, Ohio 44505
www.jimmysitalianspecialties.com

Kravitz Delicatessen

3135 Belmont
Youngstown, Ohio 44505
330-759-7889
www.kravitzdeli.com

Kridler Gardens

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

Kushner's Garden & Patio

2421 E. Western Reserve Rd.
Youngstown, Ohio 44514
www.kushners.com

Lou's Beer & Wine Cellar

2975 Canfield-Niles Rd.
Youngstown, Ohio 44515
330-799-2059

Nick's Wine Cellar

105 S. Meridian Rd.
Youngstown, Ohio 44509

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

Paw Paw Everlast Label Co.

P.O. Box 93-C
Paw Paw, Michigan 49079
www.everlastlabel.com

Petitti Garden Center

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

Robert McGowan, LPL Financial

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

Stone Fruit Coffee Co.

8414 Market St.
Boardman, Ohio 44512
www.StoneFruitCoffee.com

Richard States\MGCY Member

Dennis Toth\MGCY Member

Tractor Supply

6225 Mahoning Ave.
Austintown, Ohio 44515
330-792-8235

Vernon's Café

720 Youngstown-Warren Rd.
Niles, Ohio 44406
330-652-1381
www.vernonscafe.com

Village Quilts

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

Wally Gro LLC

Kansas City, MO 64116
1.877.796.6559
hello@wallygro.com

Whitehouse Fruit Farms

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

Youngstown Cityscape

15 Central Square, 2nd Floor
Youngstown, Ohio 44503
330-742-4040

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calendar of events



- Jan 5Board Meeting 5:30PMFellows’ Riverside Gardens
- Jan 5Membership Meeting7:00PMFellows’ Riverside Gardens
- Feb 2Board Meeting5:30PMFellows’ Riverside Gardens
- Feb 2Membership Meeting7:00PMFellows’ Riverside Gardens
- March 2Board Meeting5:30PMFellows’ Riverside Gardens
- March 2Membership Meeting7:00PMFellows’ Riverside Gardens
- March 5Winter Seminar8:00AMFellows’ Riverside Gardens

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.

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 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



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