

The Germinator

July 2021



PUBLISHED BY THE GARDENERS OF GREATER YOUNGSTOWN

92 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE MAHONING VALLEY AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings everyone.

Well we can finally return to our home base: The Davis Center! We will be having our first meeting there on July 7, after more than a year of being closed. The meeting's speaker will be R. Bruce Zimmer who was an instructor at Kent State Trumbull and the Mahoning County Joint Vocational School, and is a past president of the Columbiana-Mahoning Beekeepers Assn. His subject is the *Secret Life of Honey Bees*. Let's have a good turnout.



I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the hospitality and generosity that our club has been given at Austintown Township Park, where we've been given temporary shelter. Thank-you to Todd Shaffer, the administrator of ATP.

The Gardeners of Greater Youngstown Board of Gardeners will meet at 5:30p at the Davis Center on July 7th, to be followed by the membership meeting at 7pm. Although members are always invited to board meetings, I will make a special effort to include new members at the July's board meeting. By my count we have 10 new members who have joined in the past year, 7 of them women! New members should be fully oriented to, and included in the club's mission, activities, and committees.

Our plant auction was a big success last month, 30+ people attended; and a wide variety of plants were auctioned off...as well as a half dozen bags of locally "grown" horse manure, vintage 2019.

We will be having our annual Horticultural show on 8-28 at the Davis center. We will discuss this further at the August meeting. All members are encouraged to attend.

Our activities with Flying High at the GROW Urban Farm continues, mostly planting a variety of vegetables (seeds and plants). Members, in addition to myself, that have been involved with this important civic activity: Dave C, Rodney T, John S, Barb A, Josh K, Ron F, and Bruce B.

Hope to see many of you at the next meeting,

Tom Atkins



Meeting Schedule

D. D. Davis Center

Fellows' Riverside Gardens

Board Meeting

5:30pm, Wednesday, July 7th

All Members Welcome

Membership Meeting

7pm, Wednesday, July 7th

Speaker: R.

Bruce Zimmer

Subject: *Life of a Honey Bees*



Meet

Scholarship

Winner

Taylor Deland

Guests

Welcome



MetroParks Activities

T'ai Chi in Gardens	Weds. 12-1p
Naturalist Series	7,28
Traveling Naturalist	11
Birding the Sanctuary	17
Kayaking Lake Newport	17
Forest Exploration	22
Botanical Mornings	23
Intro to Nature Photography	31

For all events, go to:

millcreekmetroparks.org

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CLUB NEWS

55 Members

New Members

Sharon Letson, 765 Genessee Ave., NE, Warren, Oh., 44483. Sharon married (Daniel) and is the long-term director of Youngstown CityScape, an organization dedicated to city beautification by planting and maintaining flower beds and planters. For decades, our club has supported that organization's efforts by planting around the city's monuments in time for Memorial Day.

Kadey Kimpel, 603 S. Raccoon Rd., #57, Austintown, OH., 444515. Kadey is widowed (Paul) and a retired teacher. She loves all aspects of gardening with herbs being her latest interest. She also enjoys time spent contemplating Nature's wonders. Kadey has long been associated with the Youngstown Playhouse. She has worked in historic preservation, library fund raising and, as a teacher, assisting with student activities.

Welcome Aboard!

The Germinator will no longer publish the email address and phone numbers of new members due to possible privacy issues. For an updated member list email John Fox at ourmrdickens@icloud.com.

Monument Planting for Memorial Day

As our organization has done for many years in coordination with Youngstown CityScape, we planted flowers in the Central Square area around the Civil War Veteran's Memorial, and at the Smokey Hollow Korean and Viet Nam Wars Memorial.



Participating club members included Rodney Toth, John Schinker, Tom Arens, Bob Schulick, John Fox, Barb Arquilla, Sue Sopko, Jack Moss and Dave Campana. CityScape volunteers were Director Sharon Letson, Ben Morgan, Andrew Lane and Ian O'Brian. Letson is our newest club member and Moss has recently signed on with CityScape.

Scrappers Game & Picnic Outing

Our Mahoning Valley Scrappers are off to a good start this season, and club members and guests can cheer them on when they meet the Williamsport Crosscutters



at Eastwood Field on July 29th. We will enjoy a picnic at 6pm prior to the 7pm first pitch. Cost is \$15 per person. Contact Rodney Toth, 330-759-1993 or email rkdahalias@AOL.com by July 15th to reserve your spot.

New Board Meeting Details

The Davis Center at Fellows' Riverside Gardens has reopened and we will again have our membership meetings there the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm.

Our Board of Gardeners meetings will now be held at 5:30pm prior to those meetings. Guests are welcome at membership meetings, and we would like to see more members at our board meetings.

TGOA Youth Gardening Activities

Adults who enjoy gardening should want to pass on the skills, knowledge and appreciation of the art to younger family members and acquaintances. The Gardeners of America, our national umbrella organization, has a number of contests and activities outlined at www.gardenersofamerica.club/youthgardening.

There you will find the 2021 *Youth Gardening Handbook*, and 2021 Youth Contest files and forms that can be downloaded. Contests categories include sunflowers, pumpkins/gourds, containers, favorite flowers and perfect plants. There is also *The Octopus Story* and recognition forms. Check out the website to see how you can inspire and help young persons develop a green thumb.

Arens to Lead CGL Region Next Year

Club President Tom Arens has accepted an offer to lead the TGOA's Central Great Lakes Region for 2022.

Going - Going - SOLD!!!

Dedicated gardeners are an optimistic, dedicated lot. If one needs proof of that statement, they only need to have attended our annual Plant Auction at Austintown Park's Pagony Pavilion last month. Despite dreary skies and threat of rain, the venue was filled with beautiful plants and people ready to snap up some great bargains. Last year's hiatus seemed to have whetted rather than dulled the crowd's appetite for expanding its horticultural horizons.

At past auctions, members and guests brought covered dishes and desserts. This year, and what may become the norm, extra-large pizzas and soft drinks were



provided by our club. We thank new member, Sue Sofko, for picking them up.

Rodney Toth did his usual great job as auctioneer ably assisted by Barb Arquilla and John Schinker. There



was a larger than expected number and variety of plants to be dispersed, but he kept the action moving along with sprinklings of humor. Horticulture knowledge is an essential element for being a good plant auctioneer and Rodney certainly fulfills that requirement.

Bargains were certainly the rule as many exceptional plants went for only \$1 or \$2. The highest bid was \$11 for a beautiful *Brugmansia* (angels trumpet), a real steal, brought by Tom Arens and snatched up by Bruce Brungard. The plant



varieties were numerous and varied: Annual flowers and veggies; and perennial ground covers, grasses, shrubs, berries and ornamental plants. The most unusual items offered were six bags of aged horse manure brought by Barb that went for \$4 each. The sweetest smelling compost you'll ever sniff.

While some attendees only purchased a few items,



others had visions of vastly expanding their landscapes and gardens. A large number of purchases combined with an open pickup bed meant a slow drive home.

We'll be looking forward to next year's auction and a good time had by friendly people.

GROW Plantings FlyingHigh

The Gardeners of Greater Youngstown's civic project mentoring FlyingHigh clients planting and tending the GROW vegetable, herb and flower beds is well underway. Under the leadership of founder and Director Jeff McGaha, FlyingHigh services people overcoming substance abuse, educational and social issues, and preparing them for productive lives.

Destined for farmer's markets in city 'food deserts',



the produce is grown in four areas of the GROW facility. The trellised area contains tomatoes, yellow squash, beans and cucumbers. Hot peppers occupy the side lot. Lettuce, spinach, collard greens, carrots, zucchini, onions, kale, cabbage, broccoli, beets and hot peppers are located in the taller raised

beds; and herbs, basil and parsley are grown in the short raised beds. Flowers are dispersed throughout the various beds. Club members are enjoying good relationships with the clients and staff.



Gardening Odds & Ends

From gardeningknowhow.com

When & How to Weed

Yes, it can be a pain in the derriere but if you want maximize plant health and fruit production while maintaining a neat appearance, it must be done on a weekly basis.

Merely yanking weeds out risks leaving stems and roots that will only result in rejuvenation. The correct way is to pinch the base of the weed and gently pull thus minimizing the number of roots that remain. Canadian thistle and dandelions have deep tap roots so troweling our several inches of root may not completely get rid of them but their inaccessibility to sunlight will weaken repeated comebacks.



Weeding should be done on a weekly basis, and is most effective after a shower, watering, or in the morning when the soil is moist to maximize root removal. It's a bad idea to allow weed plants to form seeds because they can remain viable for years to come. Mulching with grass clippings can prevent weeds from emerging but also introduces grass and lawn weeds to bare areas. Many gardeners swear by the effectiveness of PREEN, a combination pre-emergent and fertilizer, but it should only be applied after sown garden plant seeds germinate.

Minimizing Cucumber Beetle Damage

These pests come in 2 varieties but produce the same damage. Both are yellowish-green or orangeish-green with either black stripes or dots on their backs. Adults do



damage to the roots, leaves, flowers and fruit of beans, cucumbers, melons, asparagus, corn, eggplant and squash while the larvae attack

the roots of these plants. They also carry cucumber bacterial wilt and cucumber mosaic which are fatal to cucumber, squash and melons.

Row covers applied in the spring when the beetles emerge is the best defense. The covers are removed when flowers form so that pollination can occur. Soldier beetles, tachinid flies, ground beetles, nematodes and wasps are natural predators but may be harmed by spraying insecticide. If you decide to spray, do so in the evening and start in mid-spring when the pests emerge, and continue spraying for 2-3 weeks. Spray again in early summer to kill the larvae, and again in late summer to destroy adults.

Happy Independence Day

Freedom has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men and so it must be daily earned and refreshed, else like a flower cut from its life giving roots, it will wither and die.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

I believe in America because we have great dreams, and because we have the opportunity to make those dreams come true.

Wendell Wilkie



As mankind becomes more liberal, they will be more apt to allow that all those who conduct themselves as worthy members of the community are equally entitled to the protections of civil government. I hope ever to see America among the foremost nations of justice and liberality.

George Washington



I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him.

Abraham Lincoln

You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence day, not with a parade of guns, tanks and soldiers in a show of strength, but with family picnics where kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and flies die from happiness.

Erma Bombeck

America's a family. We all yell at each other and it all works out.

Louis C.K.

Liberty means responsibility. That is why most men dread it.

George Bernard Shaw

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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.

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

Bernard Daniels Lumber
260 Railroad St.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-2211
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8277 Market St.
Youngstown, Ohio 44512
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www.bloomingcrazyflowers.com

Bluestone Perennials
7211 Middle Ridge Rd.
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www.colonialgardensohio.com

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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.
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800-423-3609

Gardening-Indoor
9215 Market St.
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sales@hotpepperwax.com

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Youngstown, Ohio 44505
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Youngstown, Ohio 44505
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www.kravitzdeli.com

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Homeworth, Ohio 44634
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www.kushners.com

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2975 Canfield-Niles Rd.
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330-799-2059

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Youngstown, Ohio 44509

The Needle's Nest
64 Colonial Dr., #C
Canfield, OH, 44406
theneedlesnest.com

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

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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

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Robert McGowan, LPL Financial
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Wally Gro LLC
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Wild Birds Unlimited
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Youngstown, Ohio 44512
330-629-2473
www.wbu.com

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Youngstown, Ohio 44503
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[www. GG-YO.org](http://www.GG-YO.org)



calendar of events



- July 7.....Board Meeting..... 5:30PM.....Fellows Riverside Gardens
- July 7.....Membership Meeting.....7PM.....Fellows Riverside Gardens
- August 4.....Board Meeting.....5:30PM.....Fellows Riverside Gardens
- August 4.....Membership Meeting.....7PM.....Fellows Riverside Gardens
- August 28.....Horticulture Show.....9AM.....Fellows 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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