

The Germinator

May 2021



PUBLISHED BY THE GARDENERS OF GREATER YOUNGSTOWN
92 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE MAHONING VALLEY AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Spring Everyone

This is a time of rebirth and reawakening. This year, there is much to feel good about. With the advent of the Covid vaccine, society is opening up; and as a club, we will be able to return to some of our traditional activities. Our club is also opening up with the inclusion of women as members. We have a new name: The "Gardeners of Greater Youngstown". Our new website address is: <http://www.gg-yo.org>.

Due to greenhouse issues, we will not be having our plant sale this year. Events that are planned:

1. Our annual Plant Auction will be held at our June membership meeting on June 2 at 6:00pm at the Austintown Township Park Pagony (open air) pavilion . This is a good time to select and pot up plants to be donated to the auction. There will be no pot luck dinner. All members and family are encouraged to attend to bid on plants for your gardens. Proceeds will go to the club.
2. The horticultural show is being planned for August. Details to follow.
3. We would also like to participate in the Canfield Fair this year.
4. We will try to get Scrapper tickets for a Summer club get-together.
5. We will start working very soon with Flying High (flyinghighinc.org) to consult/advise on the GROW Urban Farm. This is a part of our civic mission, so anyone interested please contact me.
6. Remember if you wish to place a geranium order to support the Akron garden club (see previous email for details), let me know.

Our May meeting will include Nick Derico and Elayne Bozick discussing 'Operation Pollination', a project for revitalizing pollinator habitats.

I want to encourage members to bring guests to our meetings. This is a good time to expand our membership

I hope to see many of you soon, Tom Atkins



MAY MEETING

7pm, Wed., May 5th
Austintown Twsp. Park

Let's Have A Good Turnout

Nick Derico/Elayne Bozick
Operation Pollination

Guests Welcome

BOARD MEETING

7pm, Wed., April 14th
Austintown Twsp. Park

All Members Welcome

MetroParks Activities

The D.D. Davis Center is scheduled to reopen in Mid-May.

For a listing of events, go to:

millcreekmetroparks.org



Remember their names...



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Club News

55 Members

Barb Arquilla, 3260 Lynn Rd., Canfield, OH, 44406. Barb is married (Fred) and retired from FedEx. She belongs to the Tri-County Horse Club and she enjoys everything about gardening. She also likes riding, baking, cooking, crochet and reading.

Sponsor: Terry Voland

Sue Sopko, 8087 Sigle Ln., Youngstown, OH, 44514. Sue is retired and enjoys growing vegetables.

Sponsor: Terry Voland

Joshua Shoaff, 3705 Loveland, Ave., Youngstown, OH. Joshua is an electrical technician and his main gardening interest is trees.

Sponsor: Terry Voland

Joshua Kaglic, 2300 Inwood Dr., Austintown, OH, 44515. Joshua is a U.S. Postal Service employee. His gardening interests include vegetables, flowers and fruits. He also enjoys woodworking and building.

Sponsor: Terry Voland

Diana Palmer, 5028 St. Rte. 46, Cortland, OH, 44410. Diana is an accountant/financial planner doing business as Diana L. Palmer, CPA, P.O. Box 501, Cortland, OH, 44410. Her gardening interests include the challenge of growing organic. She is also into ceramics, golf, welding and travel.

Sponsor: Dave Causer

Kathy Voland, 3247 S. Bailey Rd., North Jackson, OH, 44451. Her gardening interests include vegetables and her family has lots of animals. She is married to Terry Voland, our new Treasurer, and they have raised wonderfully smart, talented children including Robert, also a club member. She was sponsored by Terry.

Welcome Aboard!

Clubs like our affiliated with The Gardeners of America offer the 'Spade Award' for a member who signs up two or more new members in a calendar year. As noted in the above list, Terry Voland has earned the award in spades. Not since *Germinator* Editor Emeritus Joe Alessi has any member been such a prolific recruiter.

The *Germinator* will no longer be publishing the email addresses and phone numbers of new members. If any member wants a membership list that includes this information, email Membership Chairman John Fox at ourmrdickens@icloud.com.

Helping our Valley to Grow Since 1930

Decorating War Memorials

We will be continuing our organization's long standing tradition of decorating the Civil War and World War II/Korean War memorials in Youngstown in time for Memorial Day. The former is located on Central Square downtown, and the latter at the intersection of E. Rayen Ave. and N. Walnut St.

Members are asked to bring weeding and plant installing tools, and assemble at the downtown location on Tuesday, May 25th, at 9am.



Latest News From TGOA

The Gardeners Of America, our national umbrella organization, publishes a bi-monthly newsletter that includes organization-specific news and helpful gardening information. Included in the March/April issue:

While a 2022 edition of the organization's calendar will not be published, the photography contest, the source of past calendar pictures, will continue. New contest rules including the July 1st deadline for submissions are in this issue.

The national's scholarship will continue with new rules and a June 1st deadline for submissions.

There are articles on rose care, Lenten Roses, mulches, organic insecticides, and orchid care.

Members who have not received an emailed TGOA Newsletter can go to www.gardenersofamerica.club, click on 'Members Only' (password 'lily') to view the newsletter and sign up for future issues.

Board Meeting Announcements

Our annual Spring Plant Sale has been canceled. The hoop greenhouse at FlyHigh, as it now exists, has heating and air circulation issues that will hopefully be addressed before next season. Also, the Leonard Kirtz greenhouse may be a plausible alternative. The GROW community garden civic initiative is still a go. Contact Tom Arens if you wish to participate.

Our annual Plant Auction will be held at 6pm, June 2nd, at Austintown Township Park's Pagony open air pavilion, and limited to members and their families.

Our annual Horticulture Show is scheduled for August 8th with the venue to be determined. Entries will be limited to vegetables and annuals.

The board voted to donate \$250 to Austintown Twsp. Park for allowing us the free use of its facilities for our meetings when Fellows' Riverside Gardens' Davis Center shut down due to the Covid19 pandemic.

The Importance of Soil Testing

Recently retired Professor Emeritus Chris Carlson spent forty years teaching agriculture sciences, thirty of those at Kent State – Salem. Early into his presentation, members and guests attending our April meeting came to realize why his classes were so popular; a combination of important information spiced with humor and high energy. He now does private consulting.

Successful agriculture begins with good root health including soils that allow for optimum oxygen intake and water drainage. Before planting a lawn, landscape or garden, it is vitally important to first test the soils for their physical, chemical and biological properties. When he says, “Show me the numbers,” he means knowing chemical nutrient levels, pH, drainage, organic matter and soil compaction. He showed us several testing gizmos including one that penetrates and measures soil compaction. When measuring more than 145-200 lbs. per square inch, amending with coarse sand is necessary.

A good soil health test is to dig up a cubic foot of soil and count earthworm numbers; the minimum is 12 to 15. Test soil drainage (percolation) by digging a 15 inch hole with a posthole digger and fill with water. The water should drain at 2-3 inches per hour. If drainage is less than an inch, again amend the soil with coarse sand.

Inexpensive university labs are best for chemical and organic matter testing, and should be done every 2-3 years. Penn State has an excellent lab offering a standard test for \$9, with a recommended \$5 organic matter test. A standard test will include how your soil compares with optimum levels of pH, phosphate, potash, magnesium, calcium, other chemical ratios, and how much of what nutrient (water-insoluble) to add. There is no reliable measure of existing nitrogen. Test results will recommend it in the amount needed for a growing season.

Chris likes Milorganite fertilizers for lawns and landscapes. At least 80% of its nitrogen is water insoluble while adding organic matter for feeding microbes. This fertilizer is part of a Milwaukee, WI, recycling effort where waste water, sand, boards, rags, plastic and debris are super-heated and dried with the cleaned water returned to Lake Michigan. It should never be used on food crop plants as it may contain heavy metals.

For those into organic gardening, ‘glaucanite’ or ‘Greensand’ is an excellent option. It is dredged from the ocean floor and contains potash, silica, iron oxide oxide, magnesia lime, phosphoric acid and 30 trace minerals. A macrochemical fertilizer option to be considered is rock phosphate which slowly releases phosphorous, potash and nitrogen.

Thanks, Chris, and we hope to have you back soon.

Bagworm Infestations

Chris Carlson, our April meeting speaker, warned us that bagworms (*Thyridopteryx ephemeraeformis*) are having a banner year. First evidence is a spindle-shaped bag camouflaged with bits of foliage, bark and other debris. Completed bags range from 1 ½” to 2 ½” long.

The larvae seem to prefer arborvitae and red cedar but many other conifers and deciduous trees may be attacked including apple trees. Mature larvae usually attach their bags by wrapping extra silk around a branch. This band disintegrates slowly and may girdle the branch as it grows resulting in it dying several years later. This silk band should be removed with the bag.

Eggs hatch in late May or early June, and the small, blackish larvae leave the bag on a strand of silk that catches the wind and transports it to its host plant. As the larva feeds and grows it enlarges the bag and begins to attach pieces of plant material.

Control Measures

Infestations are difficult to control until Autumn when they turn brown and become noticeable.

1. Mechanical hand picking in the fall.
2. Biological Control (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) bacterial spray at the end of June when eggs hatch.
3. Chemical pyrethroid sprays ending in “-thrin”.

Source: OSU Extension Ohioline #HGY-2149



Full Sun, Heat Tolerant Container Plants

When the dog days of summer arrive, the heat is stifling and humidity high. Most plants are going to be stressed, especially those in full sun and in containers. These 16 plants from www.provenwinners.com that will remain vibrant and beautiful throughout the growing season and when the dogs come snarling. Just add water.

Summer Snapdragon ‘Angelface Cascades’

Euphorbia ‘Diamond Mountain’

Globe Amaranth ‘Truffula’ Pink Gomphrena

Bush Daisy ‘High Noon’ Euryops

Lantana ‘Luscious’

Salvia ‘Rockin’

Fan Flower ‘Whirlwind’ Scaevola

Canna Lily Toucan

Spider Flower ‘Senorita’ Cleome

Large Firecracker Plant ‘Vermillionaire’ Cuphea

Dwarf Morning Glory ‘Blue My Mind’ Evolvulus

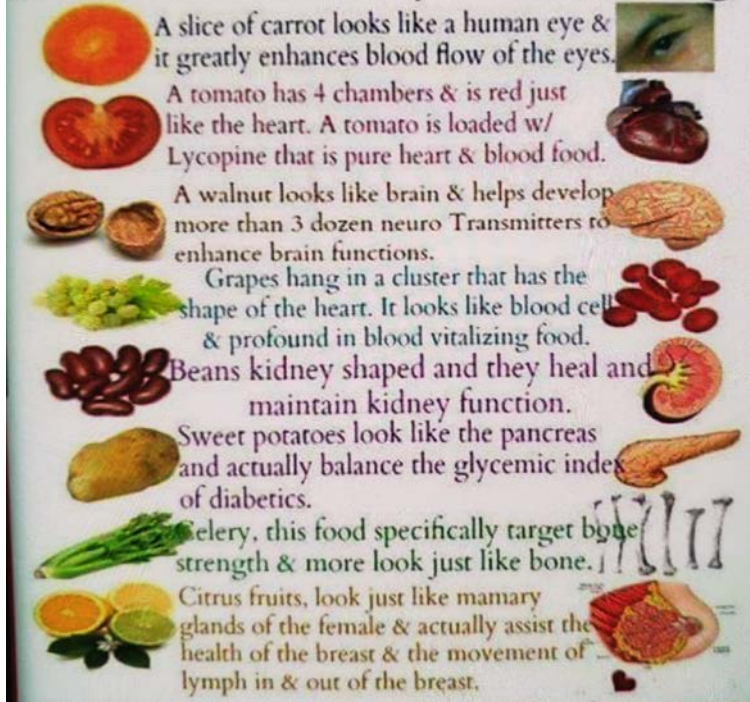
Coleus ‘ColorBlaze’ Plectranthus

Purslane Mojave Portulaca

Sedum ‘Lemon Coral’

Blanket Flower ‘Heat It Up’ Gaillardia

GOD's Pharmacy is Amazing!



Efficient, No-Till Gardening

Farming without tilling has been growing trend due to energy savings and limited use of chemicals, and it's now gaining acceptance with gardeners. The result is better crops in fewer years with less time, effort and expense. Breaking up soil clumps exposes weed seeds that can then sprout, and destroys worms and beneficial microbes that would normally provide nutrients.

Just as falling leaves in a forest decompose and nourish the soil, successive applications of mulch and compost will progressively enrich from above the growing medium year after year. Tilling may be initially necessary because our local soils are pre-dominantly clay. Cardboard is laid out and 4 inches of compost, mulch and/or weed free soil is applied on top. If the soil under the cardboard is loose, planting can begin immediately.

In addition to adding carbon, the continued layering of organic matter helps retain moisture decreasing the need to water. At the end of the growing season, cut the dead plants at ground level leaving roots to decompose over winter. Cover crops like peas, fava beans, barley or cereal rye will build soil health and add nitrogen.

The garden's yield may be disappointing initially but will become increasingly productive in ensuing growing seasons. The process can be applied to both surface gardens and raised beds.

Source: *South Carolina Living*, March, 2021

Their Ultimate Sacrifice

*In Flanders fields the poppies grow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarcely heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe;
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*

In Flanders Fields – WWI Poem by John McCrae

For Mom on Her Day

The heart of a mother is a deep abyss at the bottom of which you will always find forgiveness.

Honore de Balzac

Mother is the name for God on the lips and in the hearts of little children.

William Makepeace Thackeray

It may be possible to gild pure gold, but who can make his mother more beautiful?

Mahatma Gandhi

That strong mother doesn't tell her cub, 'Son, stay weak so the wolves can get you.' She says, 'Toughen up, this is reality we are living in.'

Lauryn Hill

If evolution really works, how come mothers only have two hands?

Milton Berle

Mother's love is peace. It need not be acquired; it need not be deserved.

Erich Fromm



Motherhood is the biggest gamble in the world. It is the glorious life force. It's huge and scary – it's an act of infinite optimism.

Gilda Radner

A mother understands what a child does not say.

Jewish Proverb

Mother is a verb. It's something you do, not just who you are.

Dorothy Canfield Fisher

Sooner or later, we all quote our mothers. Unknown

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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
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

Bruce Brungard

MGCY Member

Buckeye Therapeutic Massage

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

Delanni 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

Green Team

345 Oakhill Ave.
Youngstown, Ohio 44502
330-740-2060

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.handymanautintown.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

Men's Garden Club of Youngstown

123 McKinley Ave.
Youngstown, Ohio 44509
www.mgcy.org

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

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

Wild Birds Unlimited

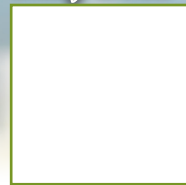
90 Boardman-Canfield Rd.
Youngstown, Ohio 44512
330-629-2473
www.wbu.com

Youngstown Cityscape

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

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May 2021



Gardeners of Greater Youngstown
c/o Newsletter Editor
P.O. Box 612 • North Jackson, OH 44451

www.mgcy.org



calendar of events



May. 5 Membership Meeting 7PM Austintown Township Park

May. 12 Board Meeting 7PM Austintown Township Park

June 2 Plant Auction 6PM Austintown Township Park

June 9 Board Meeting 7PM Austintown Township 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.

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



THE MGCY 2021 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Tom Arens
mansell713@sbcglobal.net • 330-402-2700

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Ron Fasano
ronf10@msn.com • 330-502-9989

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

John Schinker
johnschinker@gmail.com • 330-518-4384

TREASURER

Terry Voland
voskater@aol.com • 330-881-8467

RECORDING SECRETARY

Michael Banks
330-707-9089 (H) • 330-565-0592 (C)
mcbankspaint@yahoo.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
Tom Arens