



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

President's Message

While the growing season is drawing to a close (except for cool weather crops), our club still has a lot on its plate. This month alone we have the college football party and annual Fall Breakfast. We would like to see a good turnout for these events because they keep members active while strengthening our interpersonal relationships.

This is also the time of year when we start dunning you for your 2020 dues. Lifetime members pay \$10 while regular members are asked to contribute \$25. I hope you all resolve to pay early so that we can know what funds are available for the club's various activities and be able to plan accordingly.

More members paying their dues early will also mean we can publish our Membership Directory that much sooner. Send your dues renewal to Bob McGowan, P.O. Box 724, Canfield, OH, 44406. Better yet, come to our October meeting. Dennis James from DJ's Greenhouse will talk about *Fall Blooming Plants*. Not only is Dennis a horticulture expert beyond compare, he is a great friend of MGCY having taken part in several Winter Seminars. You'll want to be there.

With our weather still relatively warm, our annual Winter Seminar may seem far into the future. Planning, however, for this important club event has already begun. Seminar Chairman Tom Arens will host those interested volunteering at 6pm, just prior to our regular membership meeting on Oct. 2nd. I hope you will seriously consider taking part in an event that draws gardeners from a wide area, and one of those events that has put the Men's Garden Club of Youngstown on the map.

Congratulations to Christopher Thompson, our 2019 scholarship recipient. The Kent State – Salem horticulture student was also awarded a TCCA/MGCA national scholarship. Congratulations.

Many thanks to member Ron Fasano and John Dotson who discussed FlyingHigh, the workforce development organization that helps recovering drug addicts, parolees and the disadvantaged prepare to enter the workforce. Included are the GROW Urban Farm and a welding school. The organization recently received a significant grant to build a pavilion for teaching high school classes. Prior to entering the programs, participants are intensively screened over 4-6 months.

Now a word about our recent Horticulture Show, and the word is disappointing - a continuing decline in total entries and entrants, and members participating.. Guys, we've got to do better if the show and our organization are to remain relevant to the local gardening community. I realize many of you are up in age or your living environment precludes gardening, but we all know people who are still active growers. Recruit them not only for the show but hype our organization that they may become members.

Sincerely; *Bruce Brungard*, President

Listen . . . The wind is rising and the air is wild with leaves. Winter is an etching, spring a watercolor, summer an oil painting, and autumn . . . a mosaic of them all.

Membership Meeting

7pm, Wed., Oct. 2nd

Speaker: Dennis James

DJ's Greenhouse - Transfer, PA

Fall Blooming Plants

Fellows Riverside Gardens

Guests Welcome

Board Meeting

6:30pm, Wed., Oct. 9th

Austintown Library

All Members Welcome

MetroParks In October

<i>Through The Lens</i>	1-31
Dance Classes	1,9,15,22,29
Chair Stretch	2,9,16,23
MetroMutts.....	5,12
Photo Clique	6,12
Pick A Pumpkin.....	6,13,19,20
Jack-O-Lantern Carving.....	8-12
Fall Leaf Moon	12
Wildlife Sanctuary 'Big Sit'	13
Columbus Day Golf Special	14
Family Halloween Bash	19
Traveling Naturalist.....	19
Birding The Sanctuary	19
'Hidden Gems' Display.....	19-31
Cooking Squash.....	22
Botanical Mornings.....	25
Halloween Golf Sale.....	26-31

For All Events & Details, Go To:

www.millcreekmetroparks.org

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Club News

WWW.MGCY.ORG
62 Members

Dude, Your Dues Are Due!

For our club's officers and committee chairmen, it's important to know what funds will be available for our various projects and activities. More members paying their dues on time will make planning much more timely and accurate. Another important advantage is our club's Membership Directory, with vital member information and club activity dates, can be printed sooner.

Instead of mailing a check, why not attend our next membership meeting or the Fall Breakfast with check-book in hand. We'd hate to see any of you spending the holidays in a body cast.

National Headquarters Still Open

It was erroneously reported in the Germinator's September issue that The Gardeners of America/Men's Garden Clubs of America headquarters in Iowa had closed. The facility will in fact stay open until member clubs vote to close it. Answers to most questions regarding national issues can be attained at: gardenersofamerica.club.



A hopeful alternative involves office space and equipment being offered by Ohio State University – Wooster which will be manned by volunteers.

Volunteers Needed For Winter Seminar

On Wednesday, Oct. 2nd at 6:00pm, and just prior to our October Membership Meeting Winter Seminar Chairman Tom Arens will meet with members interested in helping with this important club event. Garden enthusiasts over a wide area look forward to our seminar, and we owe it to them to put on a great show. Please consider volunteering to help make this iconic club presentation a success.

Annual MGCY Christmas Party

Also known as the President's Reception Dinner, this event celebrates members' contributions to our organization. Awards will be presented to those who have distinguished themselves as dedicated proponents of our club. Ask anyone who has attended in the past and they will tell you it is a great opportunity for getting to know fellow members on a more personal level.



Helping our Valley to Grow Since 1930

Good food, entertainment and great company are the hallmarks of this Dec. 11th event. Details:

Menu: Stuffed pork chop or chicken cordon bleu, wedding soup, salad, dessert and wine.

Entertainment: Acoustic guitar duo Davis & Henner playing 50's & 60's and Christmas songs.

The venue is Ala Carte Catering in Canfield. The fun begins at 5:30 with dinner at 6pm.

Christopher Thompson Wins National Scholarship

Christopher Thompson, the MGCY 2019 Scholarship winner, was awarded The Gardeners of America/Men's Garden Clubs of America scholarship at the national's convention in July. Chris attends Kent State University-Salem majoring in urban horticulture.

Congratulations, Chris.

MGCY Fall Breakfast

Our annual breakfast will be held on a Saturday at Fellows Riverside Gardens in October, but the date has not been set. This is a fun event with good company and food. Members will be asked to bring personal gardening tips and gadgets that make gardening easier and more successful.

If details aren't available at this issue's print time, an email will be sent with same.

Football Party At Duck's

Hopefully, we'll have a firm time and date for a college football outing at Larry Duck's home pavilion in Poland. It is the perfect outdoor venue for such an occasion, and you can count on good food and spirits to keep attendees warm.



If details are not available by this issue's printing, an email will be sent.

MGCY Donation to Friends of Fellows

Our organization contributed \$650 to the Friends of Riverside Gardens' Horticulture Fund to honor of members who have passed away over the past few years. They were:

Jack Walsh, Bill McPherson, Joe Malmisur, Michael Sovik, Paul Shanabarger, Dr. Joseph Gregori, Robert Stas, William Slabe, Robert Fink, Everett Clegg, John Waldorf, Bill Fassos and John Phillips.

Rest In Peace, Dear Brothers

MGCY 55th ANNUAL HORTICULTURE SHOW

If the Men's Garden Club of Youngstown has an age restriction (some might think its 70 and over), maybe we shouldn't. That's because young Cole Dotson put everyone but his grandfather, Rodney Toth, and a few other members to shame at our annual Horticulture Show. Cole ran the table in the Youth Division sweepstakes with 16 entries. His 'Packman' broccoli took Best In Show.



His other entries taking Best In Section honors were: **Fruits** – Ground Cherries; **Annuals** – *Celosia* 'Chinatown'; **Mixed Veggies** – 'Kennebec' potatoes, 'Envy' carrots, 'Green Majic' broccoli, 'Muncher' cucumber, and 'Blue Lake' beans.

We normally report Youth Division results after the Adult competition because, except for member Robert Voland's entries when he was a teenager, they were often of lower numbers and relative quality. Not so this year. To be frank and with few exceptions, Cole put most of us to shame. This was especially true of our members whose participation was anemic compared to years past.

He's Back!

One major exception was Rodney Toth who has had significant competition from Cindy Salerno the past few years. Whether it mattered or not, Cindy didn't enter this year. Rodney won both Best In Show with his 'Holyhill Lover Boy' Dahlia, and took the sweepstakes with 32 points including five Best In Section awards. His 'State Fair' entry won the Boe Korody Memorial Largest-Best Zinnia award.



Bruce Brungard had 18 points for second including one Best In Section, while Tom Ares was third with 17



points and three Best In Section. The difference between 2nd and 3rd was the number of red and blue ribbons.

To those of us who knew him, it was a bit humorous that the *Warren Herald Tribune/Vindicator* reported Larry Whetson had won the heaviest tomato contest. In fact the competition, the Larry Whetson Memorial Heaviest Tomato contest, is named for one of our most cherished past and, sadly, deceased members. As he did last year, Norman Cappitte took the award with a 3.3 lb. monster.

Norman won Best In Show last year with his 8 ft. long Kentucky gourd. This year, his 9 1/2 ft. gourd took Best In Section in Ornamentals. He also wowed us with a 8 ft. banana plant leaf that was for display only.



Horticulture Show Results

The following entries won Best In Section:

Vegetables – ‘Waltham’ butternut squash – Rodney Toth

Ornamentals – Kentucky gourd – Norman Cappitte



Annuals – *Helianthus* – Tom Arens

Perennials/Biennials – ‘American Halo’ hosta – Arens

Dahalias – Hollyhill Lover Boy (Best In Show) – Toth

Bulbs, Tubers, etc. – *Gladiolus* ‘Lady Lucille’ – Toth

Roses – ‘Hot Cocoa’ – Bruce Brungard

Potted Plants - Crown of Thorns/Coleus ‘Wedding’ – Toth

Succulents – Desert Rose – Toth

Woody Plants – *Brugmansia* – Arens

Hanging Containers – Asparagus Fern – Ashley Kannal

Bonsai, Fruit & Cacti – No entrants

Members & Judges Do Their Part

There is a great deal of effort and experience that goes into hosting a well organized flower show. Rodney, our show committee chairman, and his team have both.



Pictured here are committee members MGCY President Bruce Brungard, John Schinker who along with Joe Alessi judged the Youth Division and Dan (Sleepy) Miller who managed entrant registration and, with Bob McGowan, recorded show results. Also, many thanks to *Germinator* photographer Paul Iden for these images.

While most of us are considering what plants to enter, the committee fine-tunes the show schedule including which members will serve as classifiers and clerks. Then there is the show tutorial at our annual Steak Fry, and setup the day before that includes washing the entry display vases.

In addition to preparing their own show entries, members like Joe Fagnano below help other participants with their plants and place them in the proper section.



No flower show worthy of the name would be complete without knowledgeable and impartial judges. We are proud of the fact that our club has added several new certified judges in the past few years. We are grateful to this show’s judges, some of whom traveled significant distances, for their dedication and assistance.



Front Row, L-R – Mary Ann Rich, Angie Anderson, Cheryl Bordner, Joe Alessi, Les Knight. **Back Row, L-R** – Bob Bell, David Rich, John Anderson, Clark Bordner, John Schinker

Through The Lens

An added attraction to the show was Bill Aubecon’s wild-life photo display in D.D. Davis Center Art Display Room. Included was a Great Egret seizing a snake.



The Germinator

October 2019

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

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calendar of events



October 2	General Meeting	FRG	7:00 pm
October 9	Board Meeting	APL	6:30 pm
October 26	CGLG Meeting	Kingwood Gardens	10:00 am
November 6	General Meeting	FRG	7:00 pm
November 13	Board Meeting	APL	6:30 pm
December 4	DUES FOR 2020 TO BE PAID Bob McGowan		
December 4	Board Meeting	APL	6:30 pm
December 11	Christmas Dinner	A 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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