

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

Greetings Everyone,

I don't know about the rest of you but Fall is my favorite time of year. I enjoy the sunny, but cool, days. I enjoy the smells and sights of falling leaves. I was told once that the sound of walking through dried fallen leaves is like a knife scraping burnt toast. Of course Fall portends the ice, snow, and cold of Winter. But let's not think about that yet.

A few issues to inform you about:

1. The Winter Seminar is cancelled. We are disappointed about this but since the Covid virus shows no real sign of abating significantly, there seems to be significant barriers to holding a successful event.

2. Terry Voland has agreed to be nominated to serve as our treasurer. We will take a vote on him at our October meeting. Terry's wife, Kathie, has expressed a desire to join the club as a member. We will vote on her at the October board meeting.

3. At the September membership meeting we officially welcomed our first female member, Lynn Zocolo. Keep an eye open for her photo in the Vindicator.

4. We are also considering the need to change our name to reflect the inclusion of women in our membership roles. However we will need to follow a specific process in doing so. It and it will be sometime in early 2021 before we finalize it.

5. We are considering a donation request from a deaf eagle scout who is refurbishing the family garden at Akron Children's Hospital, something that MGCY was intimately involved with at one time.

I am hoping that as many of you as possible can attend the next membership meeting as we have a number of important issues to discuss. We are trying to find a speaker to talk about preparing our plants/garden for Winter.

I also want to encourage you to bring in plants, produce, or other samples from your gardens. We have had interesting discussions during the past two meetings, and I would like to continue this "show 'n tell".

Stay well and hope to see you soon,

Tom Atrens

It's No Laughing Matter, But . . .

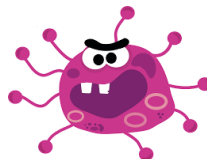
A husband purchased a world map and gave his wife a dart saying, "Throw this and wherever it lands, that's where I'm taking you when the pandemic ends". Turns out, they're spending two weeks behind the fridge.

Ran out of toilet paper and started using lettuce leaves. Today was just the tip of the iceberg; tomorrow romaines to be seen.

Two grandmothers were bragging about their precious darlings. One says to the other, "Mine are so good at social distancing, they won't even call me".

After years of delaying a thorough cleaning of my house but lacking the time, I discovered that really wasn't the reason.

If I keep stress-eating at this level, the buttons on my shirts will start socially distancing from each other.



What's the best way to avoid touching your face? Have a bottle of beer in each hand.

Why don't gormets find coronavirus jokes funny? They're in bad taste.

Mystery solved: How a guy eating bat soup in China led to a toilet paper shortage.

I'm not talking to myself, I having a parent-teacher conference.

We'd tell another Corona19 joke, but we don't want you spreading it around.

Oct. Membership Meeting

7pm, Wednesday, Oct. 7th

Austintown Township Park

Stacey Pavillion

Kirk Rd. btn Rt. 46 & Turner

Speaker: Dennis James

Subject: Garden Winterizing

All Members Welcome

October Board Meeting

6:30pm, Wednesday, Oct. 14th,

Stacy Pavillion, Austintown Twsp.

Park All members are welcome

and your input is valued.

Mill Creek MetroParks

September Events

While all indoor venues are closed until further notice, most outdoor activities are open.

Go to millcreekmetroparks.org for more information.

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The Germinator

October
2020

Club News

Helping our Valley to Grow Since 1930

57 Members

New Member

Lynn Zocolo, 1831 St. Rte. 344, Salem, 44460, 234-567-3219, work 330-740-7116 Ext. 211, lynn@millcreekmetroparks.org.

Lynn is married (Mark) and is an educator at Mill Creek MetroParks in charge of the Veggie Youth Gardening Program. Her gardening interests include trees, shrubs and she finds joy in educating children in gardening basics. As one can imagine, it takes a special person to overcome a child's short attention span and tap into their natural curiosity. She also enjoys reading and singing in her church's choir.



Welcome Aboard!

Election of Officers

Our leadership for 2021 will be chosen at our October membership meeting and, as usual, the slate is mostly set. Additional nominations, however, can be made at the meeting before the vote is taken. We do need someone to step up and assume the 2nd vice president's office which remains vacant.

We don't believe any MGCY president has ever faced the challenges Tom Arens has encountered. The Covid pandemic has forced us to cancel a year's worth, and counting, of our most popular activities. He has also had to deal with the IRS and GCOA mandate that we admit women to our membership, although he has been on record as supporting coed membership anyway.

Tom has shown the energy and dedication to deal with these issues and, in our opinion, has done so admirably. The core group of our most active members is not only aging but dwindling, and we need fresh blood. In this day and age, being an all-male club carries a certain stigma that may have kept potential members of both genders away. Once this social distancing faze passes and we resume our normal routine, a surge in membership applications is quite possible.

Many organizations like ours have quietly faded away because of lack of member interest and an unwillingness to assume leadership roles. This is why we are fortunate to have Tom as our president. He has done everything possible to keep the spark of interest alive. And he would like us to initiate new community projects which we haven't done for some time, a goal that deserves broad organizational support.

Keeping in Touch W/ Garden Photos

MGCY member Tom Beck has come up with a great way for members to stay in touch by sharing what we are doing in our gardens and landscapes on line during these times of social distancing. He creates garden and nature photo albums using [Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com) Photo.

He takes pics with his cell phone and downloads them into his computer's photo file. At the Shutterstock site he set up his own personal log-in account where there is a link to set up "Photo Albums". Photos from the computer's photo file are selected and downloaded into the album. When finished, the "Share" button creates a link to the album that can be copied and shared via email with friends.



About 70 people are currently on Tom's email tree receiving his weekly albums. Some recipients have said these emails help deal with the isolation and boredom many people are feeling these days and cheers them up. The process is free because Shutterstock receives its revenue from attached ads that need not be acted upon.

Hey, Dude. Your Dues Are Due

There are a number of reasons we need your yearly dues to be paid as early as possible. As you know, this Covid situation has meant we had to cancel our two main income sources, the Spring Plant Sale and the Plant Auction/Pot Luck Dinner. Also, if we are to distribute our club directory in a timely manner, we have to have an up to date membership roster.

This doesn't mean our club's expenses have taken a holiday. We provided two \$1,000 scholarships to worthy college students, an \$800 Eagle Scout project, other donations, and our newsletter processing and mailing expenses. Bring your regular membership (\$25) or life member (\$10) dues to the next meeting., or mail a check to MGCY, 123 McKinley, Youngstown, OH 44509

How Are We Doing

We would like member feedback on how you feel about our newsletter, *The Germinator*. We try to provide a good mix of club news and events, garden articles, timely insights and humor as this small newsletter will allow. What changes if any would you like to see.

We welcome your suggestions and criticisms on content variety and garden article sources. We've been at this a long time and may be in a rut, so you're also encouraged to write articles that interest you.

Let us know what you think. Do you read this rag or think it's worth doing considering the time and expense involved? Let us know at mgygerminator@gmail.com.

Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

Tom Liggett

This year there are large numbers of Eastern Swallowtail Butterflies. All butterflies like warm days with plenty of sunshine. Purple butterfly bush is a great plant for attracting colorful swallowtails and others. It's a good idea to keep the bush dead headed so there are continuous blooms. Sun flowers and zinnias with their "landing pad" are also excellent.



The Eastern Swallowtail is native to eastern North America. It is one of the most familiar and abundant butterflies in Ohio. It produces two broods here and three in southern states. Adults feed on the nectar of pea flowers, bean flowers, sunflowers and butterfly bush.

Swallowtails have a wingspan of from 3 to almost 6 inches. The male is yellow with four black "tiger stripes" at the top of each wing. Females may be either yellow or black and can be confused with the black swallowtail. The female has a band of blue spots along the hindwing.

The tiny green eggs are laid singly on host plants of the caterpillars. Host plants for the larva are; wild black cherry, ash, cottonwood, common lilac, sweet bay, magnolia and tulip poplar or tulip tree. Young caterpillars are brown and white; older ones are green, black and yellow, reaching a length of two inches.

Life Cycle

*Egg- It takes three to five days for eggs to hatch.

*Larva- The caterpillar has five instars, growing larger each time.

*Pupa- The chrysalis stage lasts nine to eleven days, or over



winter hibernation. Commonly found on tree trunks, fence posts and ground litter, they are difficult to spot.

The Eastern Tiger Swallowtail is the state butterfly of Alabama, Delaware, Georgia, and the Carolinas.

Creating A Pollinator-Friendly Yard

Dave is an interesting fellow who recently made a comment that caught our interest. But first, a little history. Dave had recently graduated college and had enrolled in Akron University Law School. With book list in hand, he went to the book store but never made it to the law book section. He started browsing a book about trees, forgot about becoming a lawyer, and began a life-long avocation.

He has owned his 16 acre Lynn Road homestead in Canfield almost 4 decades and, in that time, has planted hundreds of trees involving scores of species. While Dave sells trees from time to time, especially evergreens around the holidays, he has decided to turn the property into a nature preserve on the net as paradisehillnaturepreserve.com, and on Facebook. While he wants to protect all species in nature, his main interest is pollinators.

The comment that drew our interest was regarding the best time to mow a lawn when considering the welfare of honeybees. Dave said the best time is an hour or two before sundown. We found a source that monitored several hives and found that most bees had returned by 5pm with the last arriving at 7pm. And while there are many other pollinators working a different schedule, even at night, honeybees are becoming increasingly endangered especially in the wild.



Wild bees no longer exist in numbers necessary



to pollinate our food crops, a situation that threatens our food supply. Hives must now be trucked hundreds, even thousands, of miles between fields. Pesticide overuse is but one cause for the decline.

Decades ago, large scale farmers sought to simplify cultivation

mason bee nest methods by raising vast monoculture crops involving heavy tilling, synthetic fertilizers and pesticides. This resulted in a nutrient and invertebrate depleted environment where pollinators could not thrive and which left bees susceptible to parasites. While many farmers have since adopted more eco-friendly practices like no-till and winter cover crops, is it enough to ensure pollinators survive and thrive?

Pollinators continued from pg.3

1. Plant lots of trees, shrubs, flowers and window box plants that will provide blooms spring through fall.
2. Diversify lawns by allowing dandelions, clover and other 'weeds' to grow. Limit the use of pesticides and other chemicals.
3. Teach kids proper gardening practices.
4. Be an active in a garden club and sustainable agriculture organizations like extensions.

What To Do As A Consumer

1. Primarily eat what is seasonally available within 50-100 miles & at farmer's markets.
2. Encourage markets to offer more organically grown foods and be willing to pay a bit more.
3. Buy locally sourced honey.

Lawn Maintenance

A perfectly manicured lawn is a source of pride for many of our suburban neighbors but, in reality, it is a food habitat desert for most beneficial invertebrates. If one chooses the suburban ideal, it is important to mow the lawn very short to eliminate any flowers before spraying chemicals. This way fewer pollinators won't be present when pesticides and herbicides are applied. Otherwise, allow a few species of 'weeds' like clover and dandelions to remain and sustain pollinators.

Most insecticides used for grub control, like *imidacloprid*, are systemic and can be absorbed by tree and shrub roots to the detriment of pollinators. First, make sure there are dead spots in the lawn that indicate grub presence. Second, use *chlorantraniliprole* (*Acelepryn* or *GrubEx*) which is not harmful to pollinators instead of *imidacloprid* or *clothianidin*. Third, apply the insecticide after July 1st when most flowering shrubs and trees have already bloomed. Fourth, spray during less windy times, usually in the evening, to avoid a drift toward flower beds.

Managing healthy lawns without insecticides is an ideal a conscientious gardener should strive toward.

1. Choose Kentucky bluegrass or fine fescue when establishing a new lawn.
2. Set the mower blade to greater than 3 inches.
3. Fertilize with at least 2 lbs. of nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. per year.

With these practices, a healthy root system develops that can resist grubs, other pests, and unwanted weeds. The dense and deep roots create a thick layer that even a heavy grub infestation is not able to consume to any great extent. This layer of roots supports springtails and other tiny arthropods in the soil that beneficial predators feed upon. These predators also feed on white grubs and help keep them under control.

FALLin' Back

It's the first day of autumn! A time of hot chocolatey mornings, and toasty marshmallowy evenings, and best of all, leaping into leaves!
Winnie the Pooh

Fall entrepreneur...



Autumn shows how beautiful it is to let things go.

Unknown

Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower.

Albert Camus

Notice that autumn is more the season of the soul than of nature.

Friedrich Nietzsche



I hope I can be the autumn leaf, who looked at the sky and lived. And when it was time to leave, gratefully it knew life was a gift.

Dodinsky

Two sounds of autumn are unmistakable...the hurrying rustle of crisp leaves blown along the street by a gusty wind, and the gabble of a flock of migrating geese.

Hal Borland

The Germinator

October
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Thank you to the MGCY 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

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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

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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

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9215 Market St.
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330-758-0272
www.gardening-indoors.com

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3830 Starr Centre Dr.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
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www.handelsicecream.com

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

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Hartford, Ohio 44424
330-772-2100

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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

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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

The Germinator



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www.mgcy.org



calendar of events



- Oct 7 General Meeting.....7PM..... Austintown Twsp Park
- Oct 14 Board Meeting.....6:30PM..... Austintown Twsp Park
- TBA CGLG Meeting 10AM Austintown Twsp Park
- Nov 4 General Meeting.....7PM..... Austintown Twsp Park
- Nov 11 Board Meeting.....6:30PM..... Austintown Twsp Park

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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