



January 2025



# The Germinator

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Happy Holidays!*

Plans are well underway for our Winter Seminar 2025! We are collaborating with Friends of Fellows this year and their financial assistance is greatly appreciated! Watch your email after the first of the year for information on the speakers, topics, costs and an online pay portal from Friends. We're excited for this year's speaker lineup.

We do need your help to ensure this year's success. We don't use this event as a fundraiser for the Club... but we do need the basket raffle funds for our scholarship program. I will have sample letters for you to take to potential donors as well as previous donors at the January meeting. Last year's basket donations were amazing... let's work for the same this year!

Thanks to everyone who decorated our tree at Fellows - it's gorgeous! And how wonderful we have the premier location! We'll need volunteers to help undecorate after New Years, watch your emails for info.

Seed catalogs have started arriving in my mailbox, as soon as the Holidays are over and I have a chance to sit and curl up with a quilt and catalogs, I'll be planning our plantings for this year. Hope you are able to do the same.

Wishing you the best this Holiday season, may everything you hope for come true. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

*Clare*

## **GOGY Winter Seminar**

**Fellows' Riverside Gardens Davis Center**

**Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 9am**

**Continental Breakfast, Catered Lunch**

**Basket Raffle, Door Prizes &**

## **Four Presentations by Horticulture Professionals**

*All hands on deck for an event gardeners over a wide area look forward to each year. Chairperson Pat Murphy and her committee need member participation including recruiting sponsors and*

***Setup, Friday Feb. 14th at 9am***

**The Gardeners of Greater Youngstown's admission price is calculated on a break even basis.**

**Speakers, Price & Deadline TBA**

**Contact Pat to learn how you can help.**

## **Meeting Schedule**

**Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Stacey Pavillion**

**Austintown Township Park**

**Board Meeting – 5:30pm**

**All Members Welcome**

**Membership Meeting – 7pm**

**Guests Welcome**

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## Club News

### 2025 GOGY Officers

Congratulations, again, to next year's officers who were sworn in at our President's Reception/Christmas Dinner. They are:

**Clare Neff**, President

**Pat Murphy**, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

**Lisa Nicklash**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

**Terry Volland**, Treasurer

**Rob Fasano**, Recording Secretary

**Mike Banks**, Corresponding Secretary

All are in their second year or more of serving in those offices and have done an excellent job. Beyond their enthusiasm for horticulture, they see our organization as a vehicle for developing and spreading an interest in gardening and the natural world.

Our organization has several unique and popular events that attract gardening enthusiasts from over a wide area. These events don't happen spontaneously but require member input. Each member should make a resolution to do what they can within their abilities and time restraints to support our officers and further our club's mission to promote horticulture in our area.

We will be holding our annual Winter Seminar in a few short months and it is a massive undertaking that requires all hands on deck. Contact Pat Murphy to see how you can help. We'll also need members to secure basket auction donations from local businesses and individuals. A form will be made available online and at meetings explaining to potential sponsors what donations will be used for including our college scholarships.

Horticulture Show committee co-chairs Birt Underwood and Lisa Nicklash put a lot of effort into one of our organizations premier events and need help doing so. They encourage members to help keep this unique event going strong, and this includes enter exhibits.

The *Germinator* committee also needs input from members, not only to write articles but suggesting topics for our clubs newsletter. Content has been basically a one person enterprise for far too long and this has to change if our newsletter is to remain fresh and representative of the membership's interests.

### Scholarship Application Information

The Gardeners of Greater Youngstown has been promoting horticulture education through scholarships since 1991. Scholarships will be a maximum of \$1000 per student toward degrees in Horticulture, Forestry, Floriculture, Landscape Architecture/Design, Environmental Science, Biology or Entology. Only up to 2

students can be awarded in any one year with a scholarship awarded to the same student only twice.

#### Applicant qualifications:

Applicants must be currently a graduating high school senior or currently enrolled in an accredited community college, or university continuing their education in the mentioned majors.

Applicants must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 based on a 4 point system. They must currently live in or have attended high school in Columbian, Mahoning, Portage, Stark or Trumbull counties in Ohio, or Mercer or Lawrence counties in Pennsylvania.

#### Application Procedure

A complete application form can be found at <http://www.gogy.org/Pages/Scholarship.apx>. A letter of recommendation from one professor or high school teacher, and an employer if working. Official transcripts of grades described on the second application page is also required. **Return applications by March 31, 2025** to:

The Gardeners of Greater Youngstown

c/o Robert Schulick

1012 Old Furnace Rd.

Youngstown, OH 44511

Applicants meeting all requirements will be contacted by telephone to arrange a personal interview at a mutually agreed upon location. All interviewed applicants will be notified of their status with respect to the scholarship.

Successful candidates will attend a GOGY meeting to be introduced as the scholarship recipient. Scholarship monies will go into the university account the student has chosen.

Successful applicants will need to give a 20 minute researched presentation on horticulture at a future GOGY meeting.

### GOGY Holiday Tree at Fellows – Voila



**Mike Banks, Bruce Brungard, Dan Chambers & Tom Arens**





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## President's Reception/Holiday Dinner

The Gardeners of Greater Youngstown continued a long standing tradition of welcoming the Christmas season with its President's Reception/Holiday Dinner. The occasion is to thank members for their contributions to our organization's mandate of promoting horticulture education and local beautification with civic projects and college scholarships.

A La Carte Catering provided the venue and great food that brought us together in good spirit ably assisted by free flowing wine. An eclectic mix of popular and Christmas songs provided by guitar duo of Penner and Davis added to the gay mood.



GOGY and TGOA past president John Schinker swore in officers who will lead us in 2025. They are:

**Clare Neff – President**

**Pat Murphy – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

**Lisa Nicklash – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

**Terry Volland – Treasurer**

**Ron Fasano - Recording Secretary**

**Mike Banks - Corresponding Secretary**



*Those present right of John were Clare, Terry & Ron.*

Another purpose of the event is to honor those members who have made significant contributions to our club's projects and events. Those receiving Cer-



tificates of Appreciation were Ron Fasano who has contributed to many club events and activities; Clare Neff, the first woman to serve as our president; Dave Campana, long term editor of the *Germinator*; and Rodney Toth who has deservedly received every club and national award imaginable and won numerous sweepstakes at our Horticulture Shows. With wife, Kay, they hosted annual open gardens showcasing his horticulture prowess on 2 ½ acres in Liberty Twsp.

Honored guests included Joann Carney, widow of MGCY and TGOA president Bill Carney; Chuck and Jen Lahotsky, owners of Chuck's Greenhouse who partner with us for greenhouse supplies; Gina Symsek, principal of the Leonard Kirtz School for the Developmental Disabled which has aided our Plant Sale efforts; and Jack Murdoch, brother of Dave Murdoch who founded Southside Pride.

At evening's end, everyone was filled with holiday cheer and sated appetites. Female guests received a beautiful poinsettia donated by Chuck's Greenhouse. We hope all members make resolutions to attend next year and work toward making our organization better than ever.







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## 'Tis The Season...

*Winter, a lingering season, is a time to gather golden moments, embark upon a sentimental journey, and enjoy every idle hour.*

John Boswell

*Kindness is like snow. It beautifies everything it covers.*

Kahlil Gibran

And let's not forget the snowman puns.

*Where does a snowman keep his money?*

*In a snow bank.*

*What's it called when a snowman has a temper tantrum?*

*A melt down.*

*Why did Frosty want a divorce?*

*He thought his wife was a flake.*

*What do you call an old snowman?*

*Water.*



*We never made this much with our lemonade stand*

## ...For New Beginnings

*And now we welcome the new year. Full of things that have never been.*

Rainer Maria Rilke

*No matter how hard the past, you can always begin again.*

Buddha

*It is not in the stars to hold our destiny but in ourselves.*

William Shakespeare



"I can't come up with any New Year's resolutions  
It's not that I'm perfect, but that I'm so  
imperfect that I can't possibly give up anything."

*We drank a toast to innocence, We drank a toast to time.  
Reliving in our eloquence, another 'Auld Lang Syne'.*

Dan Fogelberg – Another Auld Lang Syne

## Sowing Onions

John Schinker advised now is the time to start onions and forwarded this article to the *Germinator*. He knows from whence he speaks because he has exhibited some large, beautiful onions at our Horticulture Shows.

Onions grow in 2 stages: A vegetative stage where they grow green leaves, each leaf representing a mature onion, and a second budding stage beginning as the vegetative stage ends. The budding stage growth is determined by the amount of sunlight it receives. In our area, this usually means 14 to 16 hours of daylight.

Onions are bi-annual. The first year is vegetative and budding. During the second year they bolt and grow flowers and seeds. Planting onion sets with the hope of growing large onions is not an option. Since you don't know if they're in their first or second year of development, you don't know if the variety is best suited for short, medium or long daylight as in this area.

To be successful in our area, onion seeds should be planted in mid to late January and transplanted outside in March. You may also buy onion plants that come in bunches of about 65 plants and plant them in March.

Plants should be 4 to 6 inches apart and no more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep. Onions are heavy feeders. They are nitrogen lovers and should be fertilized at least once a week. The feeding should stop when the bulbing begins. They don't do well during draught periods thus love plenty of water. They need at least an inch per week, since they have a shallow root system. Keeping them damp not only increases the size of the bulb but enhances the flavor.

Onions are mature when the tops begin to fall over. When this occurs, stop watering and wait for about a week before harvesting. Harvested onions should be cured for at least 2 weeks in a very well ventilated area away from sunlight.

### ONION GROWTH STAGES



Once the stems and roots are completely dry, clip off the excess stems and roots and store in a cool, dry area. Some of the onion varieties that can be grown in our area are: Walla Walla, Candy and Alissa Craig.

*Enjoy your planting!*



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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.**

**Agnew Lawn & Garden**

7700 Market St  
Boardman, Ohio 44512  
330.758-.114  
[www.agnewfarm.com](http://www.agnewfarm.com)

**Amish Market**

6121 South Ave.  
Boardman, Ohio 44512  
330.248.7034  
[www.theamishmarket.net](http://www.theamishmarket.net)

**Baird Brothers**

7060 Crory Rd.  
Canfield, Ohio 44406  
330.533.3122  
[info@bairdbrothers.com](mailto:info@bairdbrothers.com)

**Blooming Crazy**

8277 Market St.  
Youngstown, Ohio 44512  
330-758-8131  
[www.bloomingcrazyflowers.com](http://www.bloomingcrazyflowers.com)

**Bluestone Perennials**

7211 Middle Ridge Rd.  
Madison, Ohio 44057  
[www.bluestoneperennials.com](http://www.bluestoneperennials.com)

**Bread Chef**

800 E Western Reserve Rd  
Youngstown, Ohio 44514  
330-729-9900

**Buckeye Therapeutic Massage**

545 N. Broad Street  
Canfield, OH, 44406  
330.402.7303  
[www.buckeyetherapeuticmassage.net](http://www.buckeyetherapeuticmassage.net)

**Burton Floral & Garden**

13020 Kinsman R.,  
Burton, OH, 44021  
[www.burtonflorallandgarden.net](http://www.burtonflorallandgarden.net)

**Colonial Gardens**

1419 Youngstown-Kingsville Rd.  
Vienna, Ohio  
330-539-5500  
[www.colonialgardensohio.com](http://www.colonialgardensohio.com)

**Marketplace at Creekside Gardens**

3680 N River Rd NE  
Warren, Ohio 44484  
330.856.1641  
<https://www.creekside-gardens.com/>

**Crouse True Value Hardware**

1178 Market St.  
North Lima, Ohio 44452  
330-549-2144  
[www.truevaluetrains.com](http://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](http://www.delaquadrilandscape.com)

**DJ's Greenhouse**

1004 East Lake Rd.  
Transfer, Pennsylvania 16154  
724-962-1230  
[www.djsgreenhouse.com](http://www.djsgreenhouse.com)

**Edward Jones Salem, John Wise**

2380 Southeast Blvd.  
Suite B  
Salem, Ohio 44460  
877.335.9521

**Elliot's Garden Center**

1283 W. Western Reserve Rd.  
Youngstown, Ohio 44514  
330-758-8889  
[www.elliottsgardencenter.com](http://www.elliottsgardencenter.com)

**Frame Depot Gallery**

1043 Youngstown Warren Rd  
Niles, Ohio 44446  
330.652.7865  
[theframedepotgallery.godaddysites.com/](http://theframedepotgallery.godaddysites.com/)

**Gardening-Indoor**

9215 Market St.  
North Lima, Ohio 44452  
330-758-0272  
[www.gardening-indoors.com](http://www.gardening-indoors.com)

**Gilmore's Greenhouse**

2774 Virginia Ave SE  
Warren, Ohio 44484  
330.369.4515  
[www.gilmoresgreenhouse.com](http://www.gilmoresgreenhouse.com)

**Handel's Homemade Ice Cream Niles**

5140 Youngstown Warren Rd  
Niles, Ohio 44446  
330.505.0865  
<https://handelsicecream.com/>

**Heritage Country Store**

364 Lisbon St.  
Canfield, Ohio 44406  
330-533-5551  
[www.heritagecountrystore.com](http://www.heritagecountrystore.com)

**Home Again Consignment Furniture**

7689 South Ave.  
Boardman, Ohio 44512

**L & M Greenhouse**

43091 Columbiana-Waterford Rd,  
Columbiana, Ohio 44408  
330.482.3209  
[www.lmgreenhouse.com](http://www.lmgreenhouse.com)

**Lowe's Home Improvement**

940 Niles Cortland Rd SE,  
Warren, Ohio 44484  
330.609.8000

**L'Uva Bella Winery**

6597 Center Rd  
Lowellville, Ohio 44436  
330.536.6450  
<https://luvabella.com>

**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](mailto:parksgardencenter@aol.com)

**Piccadilly Parlour**

114 S Broad St,  
Canfield, Ohio 44406  
330.533.4749  
<https://piccadillytearoom.com>

**Petitti Garden Center**

5509 South Ave.  
Boardman, Ohio 44512  
330-788-0733  
[www.petittigardencenter.com](http://www.petittigardencenter.com)

**Dennis Toth**

**Tractor Supply**

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

**Southside Community Garden**

Lois Martin-Uscianowski  
Member  
330.727.8340

**Village Ace Hardware**

10395 Main St,  
New Middletown, Ohio 44443  
330.542.2802

**Village Quilts**

17 W. Main Street  
Canfield, Ohio 44406  
330-533-0545  
[www.villagequiltscanfield.com](http://www.villagequiltscanfield.com)

**Whitehouse Fruit Farms**

9249 Youngstown-Salem Rd.  
Canfield, Ohio 44406  
330-533-4161  
[www.whitehousefruitfarm.com](http://www.whitehousefruitfarm.com)

**Youngstown Cityscape**

250 E Federal St  
Suite 432  
Youngstown, Ohio 44503  
330-742-4040  
<https://youngstowncityscape.org>





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Gardeners of Greater Youngstown  
c/o Newsletter Editor  
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[www. GG-YO.org](http://www.GG-YO.org)



## Happy New Year

## Calendar of Events



Jan. 7, 2025 ..... Board Meeting ..... 5:30PM ..... Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park  
Jan. 7, 2025 ..... Membership Mtg ..... 7:00PM ..... Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park  
Feb. 4, 2025 ..... Board Meeting ..... 5:30PM ..... Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park  
Feb. 4, 2025 ..... Membership Mtg ..... 7:00PM ..... Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park  
Feb. 15, 2025 ..... Winter Seminar ..... 9:00AM ..... Davis Center, Fellows Gardens  
March 4, 2025 .... Board Meeting ..... 5:30PM ..... Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park  
March 4, 2025 .... Membership Mtg ..... 7:00PM ..... Stacey Pavilion, Austintown 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.

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](http://www.gg-yo.org)



## THE GOGY 2024 OFFICERS

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