

March 2024



The Germinator

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Gardeners,

Sincere thanks to everyone who pitched in to make this year's Winter Seminar another great success! From wrangling basket donations to stuffing folders to serving as table captains, I am greatly appreciative of all of your efforts. But we're not going to bask in this success and rest on our laurels - oh, no! Next up is our annual plant sale! Bruce Brungard and John Schinker have the greenhouse up & running, it's up to each of us to volunteer where needed for this all-important club fundraiser. Talk to Bruce and get on the schedule to help. This year's sale is Wednesday, May 8th - Saturday, May 11th. Talk it up to your friends and neighbors, it's a great opportunity to get spring plantings at great prices.

I am looking forward to our collaboration with Friends of Fellows, I believe each organization will bring positive strengths and ideas to support both of us. We're planning a 'Garden Talk' in October to kick everything off, Pat Murphy, Lisa Nicklash & I are looking into possible speakers - we'd love to hear your ideas as well.

On the home garden side, our snowdrops have been up and flowering for a week, the crocuses are bravely peeking above the ground and the brugmansia has taken root in the basement. Looking forward as optimistically as I do every year that I'll be able to stay ahead of the weeds and enjoy the benefits of the garden.

Hope your garden plans are well underway -

Clare

GOGY Annual Spring Plant Sale

Wednesday thru Saturday, May 8th – 11th

Greenhouse at Bev Rd. and South Ave., Boardman, OH

**We'll need full club participation for transplanting, watering and to service customers on sale days.
Call Bruce Brungard to see how you can help.**

Meeting Schedule

Tuesday, March 5th

Stacey Pavilion

Austintown Township Park

Board Meeting, 5:30 pm

All Members Welcome

Membership Meeting, 7 pm

Speaker:

Lou Vega, Green Team Update

Guests Welcome

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Ohio Woodland, Water & Wildlife Conference

March 6, Mansfield

18 presentations, 6 time slots

Raptors, Invasive Insects & Plants,

Pollinators, Climate Change, East

Palestine, & More w/Lunch.

Registration: woodlandstewards.osu.edu

\$70 early; \$85 late

OSU Extension Programs

490 S. Broad St., Canfield

Growing Fruit for Home Gardeners

9am – 11:30am, March 9th - \$20

Preparing Soil for Planting

10am, March 21st - \$15

**Sign Up for Schedule Updates
mahoninggardens@lists.osu.edu**





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Club News

New Members

Beverly and John Depuy our the newest members. They live in Struthers and are retired. Their gardening interests include flowers and gardens. They are also members of the Newcomers Club and enjoy league bowling.

Sponsor: John Schinker

Welcome Aboard

GabbaCamp Project

GabbaCamp is the creation of Golden String, Inc., a not for profit organization located in Youngstown for the betterment of adults and children with intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities. The fifty five acre year round camp is the latest extension of Golden String's mission, giving targeted people access to green space and its associated benefits. Envisioned is a half mile, wheelchair friendly path around a seven acre lake



and through woods, and special needs friendly cabins for overnight stays. Also planned are a swimming pool, pavilions, a fire pit, a theater, a greenhouse and farm animals.

Through grants and generous donations, much of the work has been completed. Our organization will become involved in a continuing project installing garden beds and other plantings under the leadership of Mike Banks. We will begin with planting around the camp's Rt. 422 Coitsville entrance sign with more activities to follow. Ask Mike how you can help.

More info: gabbacamp.com.



Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens

FFRG board member Deb Metzger and operations manager Kathleen Krantz addressed our February membership meeting explaining their mission to enhance the facility. The organization's activities include running the Shop at the Gardens, sponsoring the John and Doris



Andrews Garden Lectures and Classes, garden bus tours, coordinating the regular Wine on the Terrace at 5pm events, the Summer Garden Party and a newsletter.

The organization has 640 active members with dues ranging from \$45 to \$1000 for five levels of membership. Members receive discounts at over 360 U.S. gardens and parks, and are kept abreast of related activities through social media platforms including a website and email. Sponsored events are promoted through 'email blasts', one of which promotes a succulents class on June 22nd.

We are happy to announce collaboration will soon begin between our organization and FFRG on various events and activities. This will include next year's Winter Seminar with more to be announced. This association may also lead to a significant increase in our membership rolls.

Winter Seminar Raffle Donation

Agnew's Garden Center has donated a amendment broadcast spreader valued at \$150. In addition, Agnew's is offering a 50% discount on this spreader to GOGY members. If you don't win one at the seminar, you might want to take advantage of the generous offer.

Fifty-Fifty is Back

Members have to be impressed by the delicious baked offerings and beverages available at our meetings. In order to cover costs, we will begin holding a 50/50 drawing at a buck a ticket at each meeting.



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Gardeners of Greater Youngstown's Winter Seminar

Some attendees encountered snowy, windblown roads coming to the event, but pressed on. We're sure they were glad they did. The presentations, food, raffle items and welcoming atmosphere are what they've come to expect from one of our organization's signature events.

Prior to past president and event committee member Tom Arens' introduction, attendees were treated to delicious baked pastries, fruit and breakfast beverages. They also had their initial opportunity to buy raffle tickets and take their chances at an impressive array of baskets donated by 32 generous donors. Kudos to the 21 members who solicited the donations.



Of course, the main attraction is the entertaining and knowledgeable speakers the audience expects from our seminars and this slate did not disappoint. Space here precludes going into detail on their presentations.

First up was Davey Tree Service arborist **Shawn Fitzgerald**, a 35 year veteran in the green industry. He covered tree selection, planting, pruning, mulching and the spotted lantern fly. While the latter is a threat to grape vines and trash trees like the tree of heaven



and silver maples, Shawn doesn't believe this pest will be as destructive as the emerald ash borer.

Next up was **Denise English**, director of pollinator education for OSU's Dept. of Entomology. Without pollination done by Ohio's 400 species of wild and domestic bees, 1/3 of our food supply would disappear. She recommends planting a wide variety of native plants including trees.



Chris Baker is the founding owner of Baker's Acres Greenhouse in Alexandria, OH. His presentation mixed in humorous anecdotes, like "finding" cuttings of exotic annuals that will be added to his eclectic inventory. He is partial to Brugmansia (angels trumpet), one of our Spring Plants Sale's offerings, that is very fragrant at night.

Our final speaker was **Dr. Laura Deeter**, full professor at OSU's Ag. Tech. Institute in Wooster. Her high energy and humorous style has been a draw for several of our seminars. She recommends planting a variety of perennials that will provide year round color and interest.



Those contributing to this seminar's success were our host, Fellows Riverside Gardens, a great lunch from Inspired Catering and table center pieces from Petitti Gardens. Shaye Cahill did her usual stellar job on audio/visual, as did our president and committee chair Clare Neff. Other



committee members were Lisa Nicklash, Pat Murphy, Birt Underwood, John Schinker and Tom Arens. We must also thank members who helped with setup, manned the ticket

sales and registration tables, and served as table captains.



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Spring Bulbs Sprouting in Winter

Lately, local winter temperatures have been fluctuating wildly between the low teens and high fifties. Extended warm spells cause soil to warm with daffodils and other early spring bloomers sprouting foliage. Is there anything gardeners can do to mitigate damage or death when temps drop again?



Bulbs sprouting in winter can be problematic in the short run but this is normally not a long term issue. Frost will damage the emerging foliage but the bulb will form additional leafy stocks later in the season. If, however, there is significant green growth, action must be taken before the freeze. Add extra mulch, cover the plant with cartons or sheets. Bulbs are hearty. If the entire top of the plant is lost but the bulb is planted sufficiently deep, it will sprout again the following year.

For perennials and woody flowering shrubs, plants that sprout early need protection. These plants can be covered with a lightweight tarp or sheet when a freeze threatens. If blossoms are completely lost, more may form but the display will be smaller and less impressive. As for the health of the plant itself, freezing temps won't typically kill a healthy plant. Native plants are adapted to winter climates and their blooming capacity will recover the following year.

Turf Grass Care in Early Spring

While many gardeners admire those who forsake lawns in favor of a yard full of flowering perennials, annuals, shrubs and other plants attracting pollinators and native wildlife, the time and effort involved makes this ideal impractical for most of us.

Sowing grass seed and over-seeding can be done any time other than summer's hottest months but late summer and early fall are best. Use a drop spreader to control seed and fertilizer distribution equally and on the targeted area. An application of slow release nitrogen fertilizer in mid to late spring may be needed. A soil test will determine the amount. Consider seeding in clover to crowd out weeds, fix nitrogen and break up the monotony of green. Also, the pollinators will thank you.

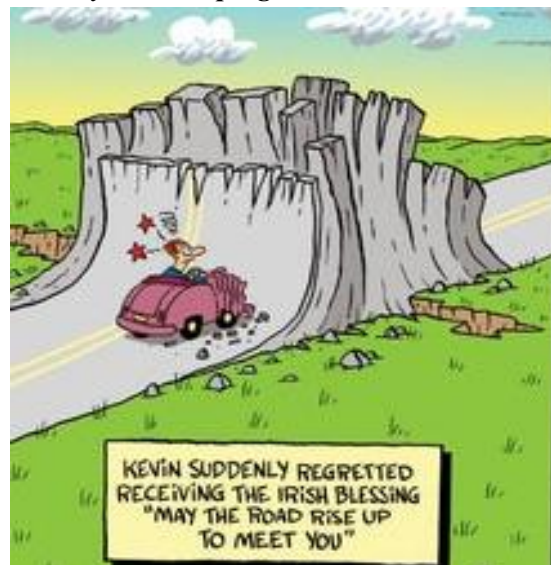
A side note: Lawns became popular in 16th century Europe because trees, shrubbery and wild grasses hid attacking enemy forces.

It's St. Patty's Day, Drink Responsibly

May you always remember, when the shadows fall you do not walk alone.

May the dreams you hold dearest be those which come true. And the kindness you spread keeps returning to you.

May those who love us love us; and those that don't love us, may God turn their hearts. And is He doesn't turn their hearts, may He turn their ankles so we'll know them by their limping.



He is Risen!

*Christ the Lord is risen today,
Sons of men and angels say.
Raise your joys and triumphs high,
Sing, ye heavens and earth reply.*

*Love's redeeming work is done,
Fought the fight, the battle won.
Lo, our Sun's eclipse is o'er,
Lo, He sets in blood no more.*

*Vain the stone, the watch, the seal,
Christ hath burst the gates of hell.
Death in vain forbids His rise,
Christ hath opened paradise.*





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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

Burton Floral & Garden
13020 Kinsman R.,
Burton, OH, 44021
www.burtonflorallandgarden.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

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

Greenstar Cooperative
12093 Lisbon Rd.
Greenford, Ohio 44422
800-423-3609

Gardening-Indoor
9215 Market St.
North Lima, Ohio 44452
330-758-0272
www.gardening-indoors.com

Gnome Home and Garden
Shane Burgraf
330.647.6269
www.gnomehomeandgarden.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

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

Kushner's Garden & Patio
2421 E. Western Reserve Rd.
Youngstown, Ohio 44514
www.kushners.com

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
parksgardencenters@aol.com

Petitti Garden Center
5509 South Ave.
Boardman, Ohio 44512
330-788-0733
www.petittigardencenters.com

Stone Fruit Coffee Co.
8414 Market St.
Boardman, Ohio 44512
www.StoneFruitCoffee.com

Dennis Toth

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

Village Quilts
17 W. Main Street
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-0545
www.villagequiltscanfield.com

Whitehouse Fruit Farms
9249 Youngstown-Salem Rd.
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-4161
www.whitehousefruitfarm.com

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



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c/o Newsletter Editor
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www. GG-YO.org



Calendar of Events



- March 5 2024 Board Meeting 5:30PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- March 5 2024 Membership Mtg ... 7:00PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- April 2 2024 Board Meeting 5:30PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- April 2 2024 Membership Mtg ... 7:00PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- May 5 2024 Board Meeting 5:30PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- May 5 2024 Membership Mtg ... 7:00PM Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- May 8-11 2024 .. Plant Sale 10AM-6PM.. Greenhouse South Ave at Bev Road
- June 4 2024 Plant Auction 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



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