



# The Germinator

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Greetings Everyone,*

"The falling leaves drift by my window. The falling leaves of red and gold..." These famous song\* lyrics speak of the passing of a Summer romance, but they also evoke the passage of time from the abundance of Spring and Summer to the quiet resting and repose of Autumn and Winter---at least in Northeast Ohio. \*FYI: "Autumn Leaves"

Many of us are busy putting our gardens to bed; storing our Dahlia and Canna tubers; clearing our vegetable gardens; mulching perennials; and burying tulips and daffodils for a long winter hibernation.

At our October meeting, the 2022 officers were elected. For the first time in our club's history we have woman officer: Clare Neff will serve as our first vice-president. I will serve for an additional year as president. Other officers: John Schinker, second vice president; Terry Voland, Treasurer; Tom McGiffin, Recording Secretary; and Mike Banks, Corresponding Secretary.

Save-the-date: 12-8-21 is our annual Christmas/President's Reception Dinner, held in Canfield at Ala Carte Catering. See details in this newsletter. It will be an enjoyable evening of good food and entertainment. Members and guests must be fully vaccinated.

As in past years, our club will be participating in the annual Holiday Tree Walk at the Davis Center at Fellows Gardens. Along with about 60 other organizations we will have our own Christmas Tree to decorate. We will be decorating our tree on Tues.11-30 or Wed. 12-1. And now is the time to gather or make ornaments in keeping with our love of gardening: dried flowers, seed pods, gourds, pine cones, etc.

Finally we are thinking, this time of year, of old friends that we haven't seen in a while---members who for various reasons have not been attending meetings. We've missed you and would like to invite you back. You have been an important part of the club in the past, and look forward to seeing you again.



*Tom Arens*

*Dan Burns*



1953 – 2021

*Rest In Peace, Dear Friend*

## *Meeting Schedule*

**Fellows' Riverside Gardens**

***Board Meeting***

**5:30pm, Wednesday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>**

***All Members Welcome***

***Membership Meeting***

**7pm, Wednesday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Speaker: Bill James**

**Owner/Operator**

**B.J.'s Greenhouse & Nursery,**

**Transfer, PA**

**Back by popular request, Bill is the guy horticulture experts go to for the final word. His presentations are not to be missed.**

***Guests Welcome***

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## ***Christmas - President's Reception Dinner Party***

**Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, A La Carte Catering, Canfield, OH**

**Cocktails begin at 6pm – Invocation & Dinner at 7pm**

**Member Awards, 2022 Officers Sworn In, Poinsettias for Ladies**

**Sit Down Menu:**

**Chicken Cordon Bleu, Vegetable Lasagna or Baked Salmon**

**Wedding Soup, Twice Baked Potato, Green Beans w/Mushrooms**

**Beverages: Coffee, Tea – BYOB Soft Drinks or Alcoholic Beverages.**

**Dessert: Cherries in the Snow \$22 Per Person**

**Entertainment: Davis & Henner Acoustic Guitars – You'll Love 'Em**

**All Attendees Must Be Fully Vaccinated Against The Covid Virus**

**Payments and dinner choices must be in by Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. Bring them to the next meeting or send them to P.O Box 612, North Jackson, OH 44451**



## CLUB NEWS

58 Members

### New Member

**Calvin Clayton**, 1415 Walkermill Rd., Poland, OH, 44514, [cclayton1234@gmail.com](mailto:cclayton1234@gmail.com). Calvin is married (Adrianna) and is employed as a sheetmetal specialist at Clayton Heating & Cooling in Youngstown. His gardening interests include growing flowers for cutting and display. He also enjoys hunting and fishing.

Sponsored by Bob Schulick.

*Welcome aboard!*

### Our 2022 Officers

A major problem for organizations such as ours is the willingness of its members to assume leadership roles and assume those functions that keep things run-ning smoothly. We are particularly fortunate to have relatively new members willing to fill those demanding slots.

For the first time within memory, we had two members, newbies in fact, run for the same office during our October Membership Meeting. In a secret ballot, Clare Neff edged Diana Palmer for the office of first vice president. A member for less than a year, Clare has lent her technical expertise to our newsletter, *The Germinator*, resulting in a production savings of over 50%. She was also instrumental in securing prototypes of our new Gardeners of Greater Youngstown logo developed by Fred Mozzy of Fred Mozzy Design in Canfield. See the next column for logo prototypes.

The officers who will serve through 2022 are:

**Tom Arens – President**

**Clare Neff – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.** We wish to thank another relatively new member, our outgoing 1<sup>st</sup> V.P. Ron Fasano, for his service.

**John Schinker – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

**Terry Voland – Treasurer**

**Tom McGiffen – Recording Secretary.** Tom has been a member only about a year but his willingness to serve is an example for us all.

**Mike Banks – Corresponding Secretary**

They will be sworn at our annual Christmas Party/President’s Reception at Ala Carte Catering on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>. We hope to see you there.

Just as important are the leadership and participation needs of various club committees and upcoming activities. Included are next year’s Winter Seminar and Spring Plant Sale. While a bit smaller, the seminar will entail almost as much work. Two greenhouses will need attending the plant sale. We’ll need someone to take charge of each as well as workers to nurture them.

## New Club Logo Prospects



### Horticulture Show Youth Division

We neglected in last month’s coverage of the Horticulture Show that the youth division was judged by John Schinker assisted by Bruce Brungard. The quality of



the Carelly children’s entries was not only heartwarming but one of the show’s highlights.

### Do Your Dutie – Pay Your Dooze

Our organization has long depended upon income from our annual Spring Plant Sale but, due to the Covid pandemic, we have not held one for two years. Yet our outlays for scholarships, grants and the newsletter have continued to be met. Please pay your dues ASAP and help maintain our financial viability. Regular members pay \$25 while lifetime members pay \$10.

Last year, due to the pandemic, The Gardeners of America reduced its 2021 share of the dues from \$15 to \$1. That is not the case for 2022 and our club will be on the hook for the full amount per member. To remain a member in good standing, please attend the November meeting with check in hand, or send it to P.O. Box 621, North Jackson, OH, 44451.

### October Meeting Format Changed

Due to illness, 2021 Scholarship Winner Taylor DeLand had to cancel her October meeting presentation due to illness and will reschedule. Instead, members asked questions and showed interesting gardening gadgets. During the discussion, the subject of if and when to till in compost and manure came up. The answers were covered in the October *Germinator* issue in a well-researched article. This begs the question: ‘Is our content ignored or just not trusted?’

# The Germinator

## House Plant Guide

Now that the outdoor growing season is all but over, it's a good time to bring natural colors and textures inside. The *Germinator* staff has been receiving the online newsletter from [gardeningknowhow.com](http://gardeningknowhow.com), and the Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> issue included *A Complete Guide for House Plants* that includes photos and individual care.

We lack the space here to provide the extensive information provided in the article so go to the website to find the house plant guide and



click on the plant for information including its specific care. Among those listed are Elephant Ear, Cyclamen, Inch Plant, Jade, Peace Lily, Ponytail Palm, Pothos, Hyacinth, Spider Plant and at least 100 more. Readers may want to sign up for the periodic newsletter, as well as email requests for more info at [questions@gardeningknowhow.com](mailto:questions@gardeningknowhow.com), or visiting [questions.gardeningknowhow.com](http://questions.gardeningknowhow.com).

### Repotting

First year plants may present a few challenges but, as they grow, what to do then? Repotting is best done in spring and, depending on specific requirements, transplanted in peat-based compost in plastic containers. If clay pots are preferred, soak them in water for a day so the pot doesn't absorb moisture from the compost.

First, water the plant the day before. Invert the container and tap the plant out. If it resists, run a knife between the pot and rootball to loosen the roots. The new, clean pot should be a couple sizes larger. Place a handful of new compost in the container, tease the roots free and place the plant on top. Gently add medium to the sides but don't pack it too tight as the roots will need air and room to grow. Add compost to the top and gently tamp down leaving enough space between the medium and rim for water.



Water in an area that will allow draining then place the pot in a more attractive container. Don't water again until compost shows signs of drying out. When plants in large containers can't be repotted, take care not to damage roots when removing 1-1½ inches of old medium and top dress with new compost.

## Using Cuttings for Propagation

Taking cuttings serves three purposes: Giving the plant a little bit of trim to help it fit better in its space; it's a good way to increase its numbers; and it's a way to replace short-lived plants. All that's needed is clean pots, a sharp knife, cutting compost and some short sticks for support. Cuttings will need a well-lit place with mean temperatures of 55-64 degrees - more for tropicals.

Plants with long, trailing stems like ivy can be easily multiplied by cutting a stem and placing in a growing medium. One stem can yield multiple new plants. Place a plastic tent over them to enhance humidity and moist. Put in a container when new growth is observed.

Petiole cutting for plants like African violets involves a soft-stemmed leaf and its stalk. Choose a plant with lots of well-developed stems and take cuttings from inner leaves because newer, softer pieces don't root well. Use a sharp knife to cut a 3 to 5 inch length of stem just above a leaf joint or node and remove lower leaves. Make a hole in the compost. Dip the stem in hormone rooting powder and insert erect in a pot of cuttings compost being sure leaf doesn't touch the medium or the



plastic container. Some cuttings will root by merely placing them in water. Water and cover with plastic to keep the compost moist. Keep warm and repot when new growth is observed as it indicates the leaf has rooted. Pinch off at

growing points to encourage bushing.

### Storing Tender, Summer Blooming Bulbs

If bulb plants are grown in pots, cut back the foliage after the first light frost, let the pots dry out and store in a cool, dry place that will not freeze. For those grown in beds, carefully dig up after the foliage begins to die back, usually after the first light frost. Cure in a warm, dry place, usually 1 to 3 days.

**Gladiolus** – Don't wash before curing. Cut stems down to a few inches, brush off soil and place in an airy spot out of direct sunlight. Discard the mother and baby corms saving only those quarter-sized or larger. Hang in a mesh bag where temps stay about 40-45 degrees.

**Callas** – Don't wash. Dry a week in a warm location. Remove old stems and layer in slightly moist peat moss or vermiculite in a paper bag or cardboard box. Store at 40-45 degrees and check for rotting or dehydration. If they begin to shrivel, lightly moisten.

For more info and other bulbs storage information, go to [oldfarmersalmanac.com](http://oldfarmersalmanac.com).

# The Germinator

## Several Uses for All Those Leaves

Fall leaves are beautiful while still on the trees but soon become a chore. [Savvygardening.com](http://Savvygardening.com) has some smart ways for gardeners to put fallen leaves to use by taking advantage of the macro-, micro- and trace elements. As they decompose, nutrients and organic matter is slowly released into the soil.

Fill a cylindrical wire frame with leaves. In spring add compost, mix it up and add potato starts.

For hybrid tea roses and other cold weather sensitive plants, use shredded leaves as a mulch.

Add nutrients to lawns by finely shredding them.

Lawn mowers may not shred leaves finely enough. Put them in a 30 or 55 drum and weed-wack them.

Make a worm bin with dry leaves mixed with shredded newspaper.

Tomatoes and peppers can benefit from a bedding of 10 layers of newspaper topped with last year's leaves. Slice an "X" in the layers and plant.

Mulch asparagus beds with 2" of shredded leaves after the first few hard frosts. Cut down and toss the old fronds into the compost bin. Black and red raspberries can also use 2" of mulch in autumn.

Pile leaves in the woods or an unused property area and add to the garden or beds in spring.

Build a new growing area using leaves and the "lasagna" method.

Save them in garbage bags and add them to the compost bin in spring – 3 parts old leaves and 1 part green matter.

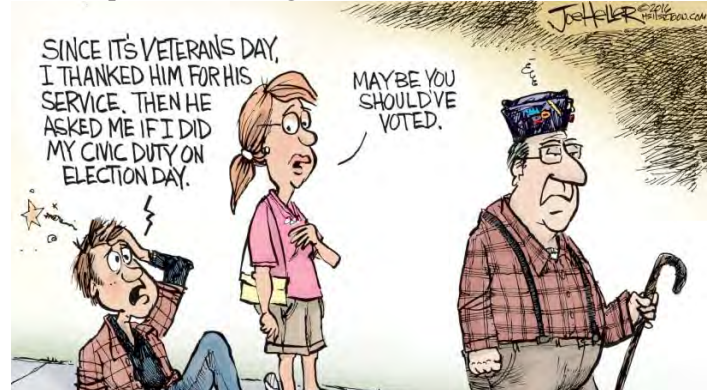


## Free Cold Frame

Want to start your plants early and/or harden them off before planting? Dave Campana has a cold frame he's been using for several years. He's moving to a condo and won't be needing it. May not be pretty but it's solid. It measures 36" x 60" sloping from 23" to 7". The top is ag film but old windows and screens come with it. Refrigerator grates form a base for plants. No photo is available because it's presently stored out of the weather in a shed. Comes with drywall and other screws for quick reassembly. Free to any member and will deliver if necessary. Email [mgcygerminator@gmail.com](mailto:mgcygerminator@gmail.com).

## A Time to be Thankful

November's two iconic holidays, Veterans' Day and Thanksgiving, encourages us to pay our respects to those who sacrificed to provide the freedoms we enjoy, and to reflect upon the blessings we often take for granted.



*The true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him.*

C. K. Chesterton

*It's about how we treat our veterans every single day of the year. I about making sure they have the care they need and the benefits that they've earned when they come home. It's about serving all of you as well as they've served the United States of America.*

Barack Obama

*The soldier above all others prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war.*

Douglas McArthur



*At some point in life the world's beauty becomes enough. You don't need to photograph, paint, or even remember it. It is enough.*

Toni Morrison

*Gratitude opens the door, the power, the wisdom, the creativity of the universe. You open the door through gratitude.*

Deepak Chopra

*When you arise in the morning, give thanks for the food and for the joy of living. If you see no reason for giving thanks, the fault lies only in yourself.*

Tecumseh

*When it comes to life the critical thing is whether you take things for granted or take them with gratitude.*

Gilbert Chesterton



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

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6121 South Ave.  
Boardman, Ohio 44512  
330-248-7034  
www.theamishmarket.net

**Baird Brothers**

7060 Croy 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.  
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330-758-8131  
www.bloomingcrazyflowers.com

**Bluestone Perennials**

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www.bluestoneperennials.com

**Bread Chef**

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**Buckeye Therapeutic Massage**

545 N. Broad Street  
Canfield, OH 44406  
330-402-7303  
www.buckeyetherapeuticmassage.net

**Burton Floral & Garden**

13020 Kinsman R.,  
Burton, OH, 44021  
www.burtonfloralandgarden.net

**Charly's Restaurant**

4455 Kirk Rd.  
Youngstown, Ohio 44515  
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**Colonial Gardens**

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Girard, Ohio 44420  
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www.delaquadrilandscape.com

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www.gardenclogs.com

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Transfer, Pennsylvania 16154  
724-962-1230  
www.djsgreenhouse.com

**Elliot's Garden Center**

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Youngstown, Ohio 44514  
330-758-8889

**Garden Artisans**

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Annapolis, Md. 21401  
www.gardenartisans.com

**Greenstar Cooperative**

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

**Gardening-Indoor**

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North Lima, Ohio 44452  
330-758-0272  
www.gardening-indoors.com

**Handel's Ice Cream**

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Canfield, Ohio 44406  
330-702-8270  
www.handelsicecream.com

**Handyman Hardware & Supply**

4351 Kirk Rd.  
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**Hartford Orchards**

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**Heritage Country Store**

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330-533-5551  
www.heritagecountrystore.com

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Boardman, Ohio 44512

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sales@hotpepperwax.com

**Jack's Custom Landscape**

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**Jimmy's Italian Specialties**

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Youngstown, Ohio 44505  
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Youngstown, Ohio 44505  
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www.kravitzdeli.com

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Boardman, Ohio  
330-782-2004

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Canfield, Ohio 44406  
330-533-7278  
parksgardencenter@aol.com

**Paw Paw Everlast Label Co.**

P.O. Box 93-C  
Paw Paw, Michigan 49079  
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Boardman, Ohio 44512  
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www.petittigardencenter.com

**Robert McGowan, LPL Financial**

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

# The Germinator

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



Veterans Day

## calendar of events



- Nov.3 .....Board Meeting ..... 5:30PM ..... Fellows' Riverside Gardens
- Nov. 3 .....Membership Meeting .... 7:00PM ..... Fellows' Riverside Gardens
- Dec. 1 .....Board Meeting ..... 5:30PM ..... Fellows' Riverside Gardens
- Dec. 1 .....Membership Meeting .... 7:00PM ..... Fellows' Riverside Gardens
- Dec. 8 .....Christmas Party..... 6:00PM ..... A La Carte Catering, Canfield

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



## THE GOGY 2021 OFFICERS

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