



November 2023



# The Germinator

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Gardeners,

I have potted up some plants that have been growing in the ground to try to keep them alive during the winter with an eye towards giving them a second life next Spring: Cuphea, Rex Begonia, and Gerbera. I'm also trying to salvage a Cyclamen that I received at the 2023 winter seminar. After it was done flowering I planted it in a shady spot and kept it alive all summer. I potted it up recently and now the challenge is to keep it cool but not too cold during the winter in a fairly sunny location. I put it in a Omaha steak foam box on my back porch covered with a translucent plastic bin. A thermometer inside the box will enable me to keep the temperature just right. I hope to see flowers next spring.



I hope everyone is thinking about how to decorate our Christmas tree at the Davis Center. Decorating days will be 11-29 and 11-30. Mike Banks will be in charge and you will be informed at our November meeting, of which date we will decorate. In the meantime, look for grasses, berries, and any other horticultural specimens that we can use on our tree.

Make sure to save the date of Wednesday, Dec 13 for our 2023 President's reception, also known as the GOGY Christmas dinner at Ala Carte Catering in Canfield. Information about the menu, time, and cost to follow. Join us for an evening of good food, good fellowship, and good music.

It's time to pay dues for 2024: \$25 per member by 1-1-24. If you joined after July 1, you will not be required to pay for 2024. 2 persons who share a household will only have to pay \$40 (instead of \$50). Any members who have not attended a meeting or participated in club activities during the past year; and have not paid dues by 1-1-24, will be deleted from the club roster.

Remember to send photos to [gardenersofgreateryoungstown@gmail.com](mailto:gardenersofgreateryoungstown@gmail.com) at least one week before our meetings and we'll show them in a power point presentation. Bring in garden produce or flowers to distribute. Tips, tools, or garden art are also welcomed.

Please join us at our next meeting now scheduled for **Thursday Nov. 2**. Board meeting will be at 5:30p with the membership meeting starting at 7p.

See you soon,

*Tom Atkins*

### Meeting Schedule

Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>

Stacey Pavilion

Austintown Township Park

**Board Meeting, 5:30 pm**

All Members Welcome

**Membership Meeting, 7 pm**

Speaker: **David Sprague, OSU**

**Plant Diagnostic Clinic Director**

Guests Welcome

### In This Issue

President's Message	1
Club News	2
Officer Election Results	
Scholarship Changes	
Best Residential Trees	
Preparing for a Colorful Spring	3
Wide World of Garlic	3
Hydrangea Care	4
Thanksgiving Thoughts	4
Thanks for Their Service	4
Our Sponsors	5
Calendar of Events	6
Officers	6



**President's Reception & Christmas Dinner**  
**Wed., Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>, A La Carte Catering. Meet at 6pm; Dinner 7pm**  
**Top Club Awards; 2024 Officers Sworn; Musical Entertainment**  
**Details to be announced – Please Plan to Attend**



# The Germinator

November 2023



## Club News

### 2024 GOGY Officers Elected

Congratulations to our newly elected club officers who won their positions at our October meeting. They will be sworn in at our President's Reception Dinner on December 13<sup>th</sup> at A La Carte Catering. In addition there will be great food, top club awards and entertainment, it's always a great time and every member should try to attend.

The new officers are:

- Clare Neff – President**
- Pat Murphy – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**
- Lisa Nicklash – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**
- Terry Voland – Treasurer**
- Ron Fasano – Recording Secretary**
- Mike Banks – Corresponding Secretary**

### Austintown Twsp. Park Planting

We can't say enough about the hospitality the park board has shown our organization, and we try to return the favor. In addition to installing raised beds and plants around its Yeager pond, Barbara Arquilla, Terry Voland and Kathy Voland planted



mums around the park sign on the entrance road.

### Scholarship Rules Revised

The Board of Gardeners voted to make available \$2000 per year for higher education students studying horticulture. The Scholarship Committee will determine, year to year, how these funds are distributed.

## Residential Tree Care

Mark Noark, a certified arborist with Davey Tree spoke at our October meeting. He spoke about the importance of planting the right tree in the right place, and planting it in the right manner. He criticized the “plant it and forget” attitude of many municipalities.

He spoke about the scourge of the mulch volcano, which can cause root girdling and the eventual death of a tree. He also spoke about the importance of proper pruning, especially as it applies to oak trees, which should only be pruned or felled in winter to prevent deadly oak wilt.

The following tree species are not only the most popular but provide aesthetic attractiveness and benefits to wildlife.

**Oak** (*Quercus spp.*) - The most popular are White, English, Northern and Bur. Oaks are fast growing providing shade in a few short years. They provide habitat and are a food source for many insect and wildlife species. They are, however, susceptible to a variety of pests and diseases.

**Ohio Buckeye** (*Aesculus glabra*) – This medium sized state tree supports many pollinators and bird with its nectar-rich, yellow-green flowers. The nuts are considered good luck. They are deer deterrents that can lessen garden plant damage.

**Red Maple** (*Acer rubrum*) – One of the state's most popular, they grow fast, provide thick shade and stunning fall color. Sometimes called swamp maple, it prefers moist soil conditions.

**Flowering Dogwood** (*Cornus Florida*) – This popular tree provides beautiful blooms in spring. It attracts birds and provides great leaf color and red berries in fall.

**White Pine** (*Pinus strobus*) – A tall conifer when mature, it prefers full sun with moist, well-drained soils. It is, however, very susceptible to winter salt injury so it shouldn't be planted near streets, driveways and parking lots.

**Eastern Redbud** (*Cercis Canadensis*) – This small tree (15-30 ft.) features pink, purple or white flowers in early spring. Its heart-shaped leaves provide foliar interest all summer long.

Others to consider are Pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*), Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), and Tulip Tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*).

Mark said that he can be contacted for a free evaluation of residential trees at 330-310-3413 or mark.noark@davey.com.



# The Germinator

November 2023



## Plant Now for Spring Color

A [garden.com](https://www.garden.com) article states that if you are going to plant one bulb type this fall, it should be daffodils. They are easy to grow, are resistant to deer and voles, and readily multiply. In addition to traditional yellow, there are exotic blooms like 'Easter Bonnet' with double pink cups, or 'Decoy' with pure white pedals and a raspberry cup.



Tulips are a bit fussier where bulbs can succumb to hungry rodents before winter hits if wire cages are not installed. Some of the showiest hybrids tend to wane after several years and need to be replanted. Species tulips like *T. fosteriana*, *T. greigii* and *T. kaufmanniana* are more reliable perennials making up for their small stature with great color and form.



The blooms of alliums, or flowering onions, range from thumbnail to softball size, and colors range from white, blue, purple, yellow pink and magenta. Most bloom in late spring, extending the color show. Dutch iris are great for cutting gardens.



One way to brighten lawns is with early-blooming crocuses, grape hyacinth and scilla. Their foliage should be left to die back naturally. Since they bloom early, there should be plenty of time for the leaves to ripen and replenish the bulbs before you need to mow. The result is a carpet of color in early spring.

Try to get these bulbs in the ground before Thanksgiving so they will have time to develop roots before winter.

## The Wide, Wide, Wide World of Garlic

There are a wide range of garlics gardeners can grow. 'Hardneck' varieties are believed to have descended from wild garlic which was domesticated in the 'garlic crescent' of eastern Europe and central and eastern Asia. Hardnecks produce a flower stalk but, rather than bearing fertile flowers, the stalk ends in a capsule containing small cloves or bulbils.



The more domesticated 'softnecks' have lost their ability to produce this woody stalk. Having been selected over thousands of years for higher productivity, wider adaptability and better storage qualities, they now dominate retail garlic sales. Garlic affectionatoes like to say, "Garlic can learn". If a variety doesn't do well the first year, save a few heads and keep planting. Subsequent harvests should do much better.



Garlic should be planted 4-6 weeks before the ground freezes to allow roots to develop. Planting too soon may result in bushy above ground growth that looks more like a chive plant. Also, foliage emerging too soon can suffer winter damage. Planting too late may result in small plants and bulbs.

Garlic is in the ground longer than most food crops so soil prep is important. Well drained loam rich in organic matter is ideal. Soil amended with either green or animal manures within 6 months won't need fertilization at planting time.

Plant cloves 6" apart and 2-3" deep. Mulch with 2-3" of straw to protect from freeze damage and to preserve moisture. Spring growth begins quite early and fertilizing with nitrogen is recommended. For low fertility soil, foliar-feed every two weeks with fish emulsion and liquid kelp, or side-dress with bloodmeal. Caution: Once green leave stop growing in late spring, it's too late. Fertilizing at that point will delay bulbing and result in lower quality harvest.

Growers disagree on whether to cut off the stalks of hardnecks so to divert the plant's energy toward below ground bulb development. Some gardeners remove the stalk, save the seed capsule and plant the bulbils 1/2" deep for quick growing garlic greens. Garlic leaves can be used to give foods a mild garlic flavor before harvest.

## Hydrangea Care

Dennis James of DJ's Garden Center is the first to admit that, due to time and manpower constraints, he may sometimes use other than by-the-book procedures when tending to his thousands of plants. While lacking his knowledge and skill, we can successfully tend to our considerably fewer plants by following accepted procedures.

**When to prune hydrangeas** depends upon whether they flower on new or old growth. All can be deadheaded at any time. For soft wood bloomers like *H. arborescens*, cut back to 3" in fall or early spring.



Varieties that bloom on existing growth, like *H. querifolia* and *paniculata*,



don't necessarily need regular pruning unless for removing dead limbs or shaping the plant. If it is overgrown, it can be cut to the ground. While the next season's blooms will suffer, the plant will benefit long term.

When pruning for appearance, hardwood stems can be cut in fall or spring. However, many gardeners find the leaf's fall colors and spent flowers attractive suspending pruning until spring. Cut weak stems to the ground, and deadhead spent blooms and stems to the last, top bud.

**Transplanting hydrangeas** can be done any time of year except during maximum summer heat and when the ground is frozen. However, best practice is when the plant is dormant, the flowers have died back and most leaves have dropped. In our area, this is usually in November.

Most hydrangeas, especially established ones, require a lot of digging and may need to be pruned back before moving. Pick a location that has at least some shade during the day. The new hole should be twice as wide but the same depth as the root ball. Once in the new hole, fill in with excavated soil only, and thoroughly soak the root ball and soil around. Add several inches of compost. If done in November, watering requirements will be minimal. Water frequently during the next growing season to establish the plant.

Source: [gardeningknowhow.com](http://gardeningknowhow.com)

## Thanksgiving Thoughts

*No, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26<sup>th</sup> day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to be the service of the great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be.* George Washington's Thanksgiving Proclamation, Oct. 3, 1789

*I am thankful for what I am and have. My thanksgiving is perpetual.* David Thoreau

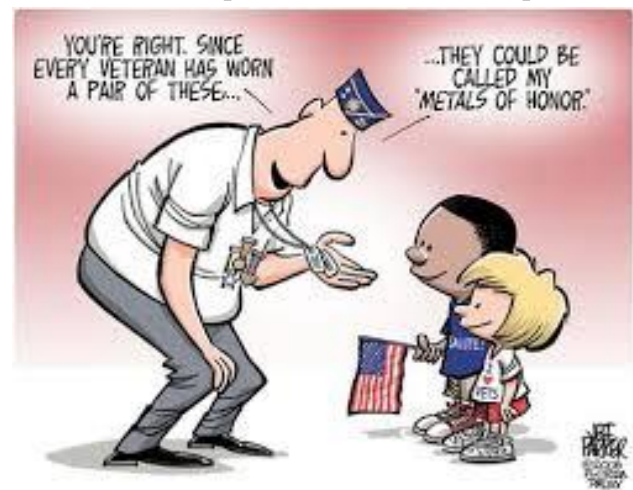
*Being thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never have enough.* Oprah Winfrey

*Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others.* Marcus Tullius Cicero



## Thanking Them For Their Service

*But on this Veteran's Day, I believe we should do more than sing the praises of the bravery and patriotism that our veterans have embodied in the past. We should take this opportunity to re-evaluate how we are treating our veterans in the present.* Nick Lampson



*As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.* John F. Kennedy



# The Germinator

November 2023



**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



# The Germinator



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

www. GG-YO.org



## Calendar of Events



- Nov 2 ..... Board Meeting ..... 5:30PM ..... Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- Nov 2 ..... Membership Mtg ... 7:00PM ..... Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- Dec 13 ..... Holiday Party ..... TBA ..... A La Carte Catering, Canfield
- Jan 3 2024 ..... Board Meeting ..... 5:30PM ..... Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- Jan 3 2024 ..... Membership Mtg ... 7:00PM ..... Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- Feb 7 2024 ..... Board Meeting ..... 5:30PM ..... Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- Feb 7 2024 ..... Membership Mtg ... 7:00PM ..... Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- March 6 2024 ..... Board Meeting ..... 5:30PM ..... Stacey Pavilion, Austintown Park
- March 6 2024 ..... 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 2023 OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Tom Arens  
[mansell713@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mansell713@sbcglobal.net) • 330.402.2700

### 1st VICE PRESIDENT

Clare Neff  
[clare\\_neff@mac.com](mailto:clare_neff@mac.com) • 330.503.6988

### 2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Shane Burgraf  
[gnomehomeandgarden@outlook.com](mailto:gnomehomeandgarden@outlook.com)  
330.719.6066

### TREASURER

Terry Voland  
[voskater@aol.com](mailto:voskater@aol.com) • 330.881.8467

### RECORDING SECRETARY

Linda Biggs  
[ljbigsy@gmail.com](mailto:ljbigsy@gmail.com) • 330.727.1962

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Michael Banks  
330.707.9089 (H) • 330.565.0592 (C)  
[mcbankspaint@yahoo.com](mailto:mcbankspaint@yahoo.com)

### GERMINATOR STAFF

David Campana, Editor  
[mgcygerminator@gmail.com](mailto:mgcygerminator@gmail.com)  
Clare Neff, layout  
Tom Arens