

Welcome to the AGNR Volunteer Newsletter February  
News, Events and Activities for OCVNs and MGVs

# Welcome to 2021

THOUGHTS FROM OUR MGV'S . . .

*Someone needs your smile today*

*Your hug, your listening ear*

*Someone needs encouragement*

*And gentle words of cheer*

*Someone needs your helping hand*

*Your letter, what's more*

*Someone needs your visit*

*To make their spirit soar*

*Someone needs affection*

*When they are feeling blue*

*Listen, someone is calling*

*For a special friend like you*

*Author - unknown*

Obviously, this was written before the pandemic. So many are struggling with isolation, many have been hit hard financially, 'home' schooling kids, and on and on. What a difference a cherry card or a phone call could make. So many people really need someone to talk to, someone who cares someone to offer a helping hand, be that person.

## ~ANNOUNCEMENTS~

OCVN MEETING.... February 25<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm Planning meeting for 2021 – Zoom link will be sent.

OCVN NEW TRAINING CLASS .... 2021 TBD

MGV MEETING . . .February 11<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm – Zoom link will be sent.

MGV SOCIAL CHAT . . . February 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 1:00 pm

- <https://osu.zoom.us/j/96834983799?pwd=TFVUYTltaHd2UnRUTDZJMUR4aTd3Zz09>
- o Meeting ID: 968 3498 3799
- o Password: chat
- o +13126266799,,96834983799#,,,0#,,330250# US (Chicago)
- o +16468769923,,96834983799#,,,0#,,330250# US (New York)

MGV NEW TRAINING CLASS . . .2021 TBD

MGV TRAINEE HOURS...The class of 2020: Your volunteer hours have changed from 50 to 25 to become certified. You may use webinars as volunteer hours. There is a new entry in the VMS system: Covid 19 continuing Ed in place of Service Hours. Reminder your hours need to be completed by December 2021.

FOR ALL MGV HOURS FOR 2021...All MGV's continue putting your hours into VMS until further notice.

ZOOM TRAININGS . . .

[How to Present Via Zoom](#) – Will not be recorded! (For those that want to present a class via Zoom)

- Wednesday, February 3rd @ 3:00 pm

- Please register at

[https://osu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlkfuquqzopGNdq9GEIh3h\\_1MOzAd\\_y3ND4](https://osu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlkfuquqzopGNdq9GEIh3h_1MOzAd_y3ND4)

[1.50 Child Abuse Prevention Training](#) – (For anyone who would like to work with Jr. Master Gardeners or other kid groups)

- Tuesday, February 9, 2021 for 7:00pm to 7:30pm

- Registration link for the Virtual trainings: [1.50 Child Abuse Prevention Training](#)

A NEW, BETTER BED BUG FACTSHEET...is now available on Ohioline at <http://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/hyg-2105> This continues to be a big issue in Ohio. We get lots of questions. Share to help explain identification and control with our clientele.

NEW FLOOR & UPGRADES IN BACK ROOM...at the Extension Office is underway. These updates to our newly reclaimed office space will be great for meetings and programs in 2021 and beyond. (This is the old space where the drivers exam was housed.) If you are interested in supporting this effort, you can give online at <http://go.osu.edu/givemahoning>

VIRTUAL VOLUNTEERING...possibilities include:

1. Attending the monthly Master Gardener meetings via Zoom
2. Participate in our Zoom programs, they are listed below under EVENTS
3. Writing for the Valley Grows column in the Vindicator, please remember to send Eric your article ideas. We want to ensure two people are not writing on the same topic.
4. Teach/present topics virtually. Worried about technology? Don't worry Kristen and Haley will help you! Not sure what to present? Don't worry we help with that too! Please contact KRISTEN via email at [eisenhauer.30@osu.edu](mailto:eisenhauer.30@osu.edu) or call the office at 330-533-5538 to talk to her.
5. MGV EDUCATIONAL HOURS. . .Upcoming and recorded Horticultural Lunch and Learns and Happy Hour Webinars from the state are available at: <http://go.osu.edu/MGVlearn> or <https://mastergardener.osu.edu/resources/webinars>

MGV MINUTES...

January Minutes - <https://u.osu.edu/barrett.90/2021/01/24/mgv-meeting-minutes-january-2021/>

MGV Committees. . . an email was sent out for you to sign up for a committee(s) of your choice, if you haven't already done so here is the link to use. Reminder ALL Master Gardeners need to select a committee.

[https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_cM7jnETPNdAlkYt](https://osu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cM7jnETPNdAlkYt).

WE ARE MONITORING...the changing landscape of the pandemic to determine when we might be able to get back to in person programming. At this time, we do not have an update beyond our office being open for curbside again on Tuesday, January 19. We expect zoom to be our meeting and event location until June-ish. Yes, that is like Blursday. Even after that, we will continue to offer zoom options until we get back to some sort of normalcy. Hang in there. Join zoom meetings for some social time. Call other volunteers to chat about nature/gardening. Learn something new you can share with others in the future. Thanks for all you do!

## ~MEETING CALENDARS~

2021 OCVN Meetings –

- February 25<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm, planning meeting for 2021

2021 MGV Meetings...

6pm garden talk/socializing. Meeting 6:30pm

- February 11<sup>th</sup>
- March 11<sup>th</sup>
- April 8<sup>th</sup>
- May 13<sup>th</sup>
- June 10<sup>th</sup>
- July 8<sup>th</sup>
- August 12<sup>th</sup>
- September 9<sup>th</sup>
- October 14<sup>th</sup>
- November 4<sup>th</sup>
- December 9<sup>th</sup>

2021 Events for All...

Mahoning County Programs

- **February Classes:**
  - **Nature- The Free Stress Reliever: 2**
    - Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/stressreliever2>
  - **Skulls Tell it All – Ohio Mammals**
    - Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/skulls>
  - **Naturalist Series: How do Animals Survive the Cold**
    - Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/survivethecold>

- **Natural Calendar – Growing Degree Days**
  - Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am
  - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/naturalcalendar>
- **March Classes:**
  - *Garden Art with Pam B: Garden Tool Planters*
    - Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 pm
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/gardentoolplanters>
  - *Naturalist Series: Tree Communications*
    - Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/treecommunication>
  - *Attracting and Raising Monarchs*
    - Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/monarchs>
- **April Classes:**
  - *Naturalist Series: Top 10 Native Perennials for Pollinators: Great Plants, Great Networks*
    - Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm
    - To register and more info visit: <https://go.osu.edu/nativeperennials>

For a complete and up to date list of events please visit <https://mahoning.osu.edu/events>

Statewide Programs . . .

- **Living Landscape Series**

All sessions are free via Zoom, but preregistration is required. Find registration links and detailed program descriptions here: <https://u.osu.edu/certify/living-landscape-speaker-series/>

  - February 6th 10am – 12:00pm
    - **Rick Darke: Dynamic Design and The Art of Observation**

**More Stories About Your Fellow MGVs In the Newsletter** . . . . Some of you will recall in the past I wrote an article every month for the newsletter after interviewing fellow MGVs. In the interest of trying to keep our MGV ‘family’ connected during these times, I think it is a good time to bring that feature back. Eric suggested that the class of 2020 Interns get first crack at writing these articles (some are now MGVS).

Here’s the plan. I will put MGV names (those who have not previously had an article written about them) in a hat and will randomly draw names. I will provide Interns who want to write with the names and contact info. Interns will then contact chosen MGVS for an interview. The people interviewed will have a chance to approve and add to or subtract from the story as written by the interns before publication. To get them started I will provide a list of possible questions.

This seems like a good way to get to know each other a little better. So, don’t be surprised if you get a phone call or an email from a fellow MGV (or Intern) wanting to ask you some questions. They will call you during the first or second week of the month. Maybe the interviewers can uncover some deep dark secrets about some of us! Looking forward to learning more about each of you!

TO ALL MGVs and OCVNs – PLEASE write a garden article, send a cartoon, a joke, a favorite garden saying, etc. to Lori to be published in our Flora and Fauna monthly newsletter. Thank you. Marilyn

## **THE SPOTLIGHT IS ON: BILL SNYDER MGV, OCVN**

By Marilyn McKinley

The spotlight is on Dr. Bill Snyder, aka Dr. Dirt. Bill took the MGV class in 2005. Many of you know Bill, but due to illness Bill has been out of commission for about three years. But he is back and all MGVs will have the pleasure of meeting and getting to know Bill. Before retirement Bill worked at the OSU extension office as a program assistant. He taught many classes, including the Master Gardeners class.

William R. Snyder has a PhD in biochemistry and is patent attorney. Bill was born at the old Northside Hospital, the family lived in Poland. Like many baby boy boomers, he worked in the steel mills to earn money to attend Ohio State University. But that was just the beginning of his academic adventures. He is an alumnus of: The University of Chicago, Harvard, Aurora University, and Chicago Kent College of Law.

Careers include Biochemistry Research and Professor at University of Illinois at Chicago and Northern Illinois University. Independent Consultant and Patent Attorney. In 2004 he moved back to Ohio and began working at OSU.

Bill has been around and has had several addresses in Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts. Bill has also visited several foreign countries.

I asked him a few questions his responses follow. What ignited the gardening spark in you? His reply – Visits to Arnold Arboretum in Boston and to Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois. What is your garden philosophy? His reply “I don’t know enough to have a philosophy”. Now you get a sense of his self-deprecating sense of humor! What was your first gardening effort? “A lot of unusual houseplants, including Orchids (Epidendrum, Paphiopedilum, and Oncidium), Staghorn Ferns, and a special Australian Tree Fern”. First extensive gardening experience was landscaping unimproved land around a new home in Geneva, IL. Bill says he does not have a favorite garden quote or saying. His favorite thing to grow is trees. His least favorite thing to grow – “whatever didn’t live”!

His best garden success: He found a small European Larch that had been in the sale yard for months and had rooted in the gravel surface. He took it home and planted it in his Geneva, IL yard. At last sighting, it had dwarfed everything in the neighborhood. His worst garden mistake? “Too many to select from”! Bill does not have a favorite vegetable, herb, or flower. This writer contends, anything that is edible is a favorite.

Non - botanical hobbies include photography and classic films. In the past he was an avid hiker and is hoping to do that again. Other interests – rehabilitation. Due to Bill’s illness to be able to be more mobile he must do a lot of rehab on his legs.

Bill belongs to the American Chemical Society, and the Illinois Bar Association.

When I asked him if there was anything else, he would like fellow MGVs to know about him. His reply: “I have no felonies”!

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**Enjoy the month of February as you start to make plans for your 2021 gardens!!!**

*If you want an announcement or information in the AGNR Newsletter, please e-mail to Lori at [moff.1@osu.edu](mailto:moff.1@osu.edu) by the 23rd of the month.*