

# Welcome to 2022

THOUGHTS FROM Robert Eister . . . March 2022

Dear fellow OSU Master Gardener Volunteers,

I want to encourage you to turn in both your personal Bio and Specialty Topics survey. We would like to use the compiled results to match your special interests and skills with the interests of the trainees. Together we can have fun and accomplish much more. We are planning to hold a Spring Conference on both April 23rd and April 30th. Please try to attend our scheduled Thursday meetings or read the meeting minutes normally attached to this newsletter to determine what was discussed and decided during our MGV meetings.

We continue planning for events. There are many opportunities to log some of your required 20 volunteer hours. Please ask yourself what is your passion or interest and where you are willing to volunteer your hours.

Hoping you ordered your seeds and are planning for a productive gardening season.

Bob Eister

President

## **Please remember our requirements to be an active member are:**

### OBTAINING VOLUNTEER HOURS:

20 documented volunteer hours are required annually to maintain active status. Approved volunteer hours must be MGV related and may include:

- 2 hours must come from Backyard and Local Food events
- 2 hours must come from Environmental Horticulture events
- Approved projects to obtain volunteer hours are committee driven
- If you desire to volunteer for a project not committee driven, you must submit your request in writing for approval from an OSU Educator at the beginning of the year
- Attending monthly meetings will equal one volunteer hour (and one education hour – see below)
- Refer to the committee list and description
- You may NOT record any hours you are paid for

### OBTAINING CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS:

10 documented education hours are required annually to maintain active status. Approved continuing education hours must be MGV related and may include:

- 2 hours must be from integrated pest management classes or presentations

- 2 hours must be from invasive species classes or presentations
- Attending monthly MGV meeting – where a speaker presents a program
- Attend a MGV sponsored field trip with a specialist tour guide

### ~ANNOUNCEMENTS~

2022 Certification for MGVs...The beginning of the year means we need to complete our annual processes for active MGV participation. This includes:

- Dues - \$10.00 – Send check to office, drop off at office, bring to meeting
- Sign up for a committee in 2022
- Remember to maintain active certification for MGV's you need **20 volunteer hours** and **10 education hours** yearly (November 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022).

### COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS

We continue to monitor the ongoing pandemic and the effect it has on the health and wellness of our staff and volunteers. At this time, we continue to have air cleaners in our meeting rooms and offices, sanitize on a regular basis, and enforce social distancing at meetings and events. We may institute a mask mandate and other protocols at any time as we see cases increase. Please watch your email and/or text messages for any updates or changes to meeting or event plans.

\*\*\*\*If you do not get text messages from Kristen as a reminder, please call/email her with your cell number to be put into the system.

MGV & OCVN NEW TRAINING CLASSES .... began on February 1, 2022. The detailed agenda for speakers and session topics will be posted soon. Current MGV volunteers and OCVN alumni can attend classes in their respective areas to learn more about a specific topic. Please let us know if you plan to be here for any of the sessions, as space is limited.

FOR ALL MGV HOURS FOR 2021...All MGV's continue putting your hours into Hands on Connect. We will work on setting up quarterly times for you to be able to come into the office for computer resources and help.

OCVN HOURS...please continue to contact Ann Baird at [baird.41@osu.edu](mailto:baird.41@osu.edu) with any questions about the system or inputting hours. OCVN hours are managed by the state.

### ~OPPORTUNITY~

- Diana Mullins from the Flower Show during the Canfield Fair is looking for someone to work with her during the Fair – if interested contact the office for her information.

### ~SPEAKERS NEEDED~ . . .

- Group - St. Michael's Garden Club
  - Contact – Mrs Rehlinger 330-533-5393 or 330-881-1625
  - Date – September 28<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm for an hour
  - Topic – Any Garden Topic
- Group – Gardeners of Greater Youngstown
  - Contact – Clare Neff [clare\\_neff@me.com](mailto:clare_neff@me.com)
  - Date – February and March
  - Topic – Indoor Plant Care and Garden Prep

### ~ MGV MINUTES ~

## ~MEETING CALENDARS~

### 2022 MGV Meetings...

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

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

### 2022 Events for All...

#### Mahoning County Programs

- **March Classes:**
  - Naturalist Series: Beautiful & Bouncing Back: The Return of the Bald Eagle
    - Date: March 24<sup>th</sup>
    - Time: 6:30 pm
    - To register visit: <https://go.osu.edu/bladeagles>
- **Up Coming Classes:**
  - Naturalist Series: Aquatic Invasives
    - Date: Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>
    - Time: 6:30 pm
    - Location: Mahoning County Extension Office
    - To register visit <https://go.osu.edu/aquaticinvasives>
  - Gardening For Pollinators
    - Date: Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>
    - Time: 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
    - Location: Mahoning County Extension Office
    - Cost: \$30.00 per person
    - To register visit <https://go.osu.edu/05-19pollinators>
  - Naturalist Series: Bees in Your Ohio Backyard
    - Date: Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>
    - Time: 6:30 pm
    - Location: Mahoning County Extension Office
    - To register visit <https://go.osu.edu/05-19bees>
  - Naturalist Series: A Concert of Crickets and Katydid
    - Date: Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>
    - Time: 6:30 pm
    - Location: Mahoning County Extension

- To register visit <https://go.osu.edu/cricketsandkatydids>
- Naturalist Series: The Many Lives of Lichens
  - Date: Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Time: 6:30 pm
  - Location: Mahoning County Extension Office
  - To register visit <https://go.osu.edu/livesoflichens>
- Naturalist Series: Hunting Wild Mushrooms in Eastern Ohio
  - Date: Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>
  - Time: 6:30 pm
  - Location: Mahoning County Extension Office
  - To register visit <https://go.osu.edu/wildmushrooms>

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

Spotlight is on Kary Shively . . . .

SPOTLIGHT ON KARY SHIVLEY (in her own words)

Where were you born & raised? I was born in Alliance, Ohio. We moved to Austintown when I was 11 for my father's work.

Where did you attend school? I graduated from Fitch in 1973. I took some continuing education classes in business.

Career / background? I've worked at several places over the years. I did large quantity (warehouse) accounts payables, I worked for a law firm 10 years, and in my last employment I was a teacher's aide in a high school classroom for kids with multiple disabilities.

First job? Do you remember how much you earned per hour? My first job was working for Mr. B's Catering while in high school. I do not remember my wage. I'm quite sure it wasn't much but I saved what I earned.

Who ignited the gardening spark in you? As a kid I was always aware of flowers, ground covers, shrubbery and even trees. I remember playing outside and smelling lilies of the valley in the spring. My mom, once we moved to Austintown, used to plant red geraniums with yellow marigolds. She put impatiens in shady areas. My mom and dad had a small vegetable garden consisting mostly of tomatoes, onions, and radishes.

What is your garden philosophy? I just don't know....

Your first garden? I had houseplants to begin my gardening career before I moved from my parents' house. When I got my first home, I began a vegetable garden. I grew corn, potatoes and tomatoes the first year. Over time I relandscaped the house and started a perennial garden which grew each year.

Favorite thing to grow? Why? I enjoy growing sunflowers. They get so tall and they are so happy looking. AND they attract pollinators, butterflies and birds. My only problem I have with them is squirrels. They climb the stock, chew off the flower head and run off with it. I had this happen many times last year. GRRRRR

Best garden success story? When I learned more in-depth information about native plants and the benefits of them, I began to plant them throughout my gardens. The results were amazing. It didn't take long before I saw more bees, butterflies, birds, and other fauna as a result of my plantings. I am so delighted to hear buzzing and watch the activity all around.

Worst garden mistake? Probably the worst things I've done is instill a plant in the wrong site. Too much or too little sun, too wet or too dry. If it's a perennial I simply move it to the correct planting location. It's amazing how much better it becomes in the right space. Plus, when pulling weeds, I have accidentally pulled a plant I wanted and realized it too late. OOPS

Favorite veggie, herb, or flower? Why? My favorite vegetable to grow and harvest fresh is the beet. A freshly cooked beet is the best. Remove all but 2 inches of the beet tops. Wash and leave whole with the root ends attached. Boil in salted water with a bit of vinegar (to maintain color) until tender. Run cold water over the beets and slip off skin and remove root ends. Slice or dice. Add butter.

Year you took the MGV class? 2016

Hobbies? Organizations you belong to?

My hobby would be gardening I believe. Hehe!! I don't do crafty things. LOL

I am a member of Ohltown United Methodist Church which is literally at the end of my road. LOL. Before covid, I taught Sunday School and helped with Jr. Church. That hasn't happened for about 2 years now. I also get the altar flowers for the sanctuary. In the summer I bring in flowers from my gardens and have a few parishioners ask for them specifically. All the hard work is worth it.

Something you are afraid of? I'm not a fan of snakes.

Are you superstitious? No.

Favorite food? I like so many foods and sweets that I can't name a favorite.

Have you traveled?

My last travelling adventure was to Portland, Oregon for a birthday surprise for my sister arranged by my two nieces and my brother-in-law. It was great as she was definitely surprised, I was at her 60th birthday party with the family. While I was there, Edelweiss Perennials, an online only nursery and located in Canby, Oregon, had an open house and plant sale. They do this one day only each year and I was so pleased we could go to it. I had purchased a few plants from them in the past. So, my sister and I along with a niece and 3 of the grandkids went to this open house. They had a lot of beautifully landscaped beds throughout and offered lemonade and cookies. My sister and niece bought several perennials and my sister, and I planted them the next day. Fun fun. My family traveled to Canada near the Thousand Islands each year while I was growing up. We fished, swam in the lake, waterskied, climbed rocks, and ran around in fields and woods. One year, I was around 11 or 12, a friend and I cleared out some weeds in the woods for a hide out. Well, those weeds we ripped out with our unprotected hands was poison ivy. I had it all over me. Remember Calamine lotion?? I had to apply it all over myself. It was bad. I know it now and try my best not to touch it. Occasionally though I miss one and get the allergic reaction. I took a Carnival cruise to the Bahamas with my kids when they were 14 and 12. We had a blast. We took a glass bottom boat tour and enjoyed the beach. I think my favorite thing we did was snorkeling. I loved watching the fish activity underneath me. My daughter and I took a bus trip to Boston many years ago.

We saw Phantom of the Opera one evening and did a little sightseeing. We went on a whale watching tour while there. It's really fun to see them and dolphins in their natural habitat.

Other interests? Anything else you would like your fellow MGVs/OCVNs know about you!

This summer I plan to have a grandkids garden to include both vegetables and flowers. I plan to teach them more about bees and butterflies too. Hopefully some bits of information will sink in.

---

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. We welcome articles about you – and your fellow MGVs! It is great to learn even more about our friends and colleagues.

**Enjoy planning your GARDENS!!**

**A Big Thank You to**

**Bill and Stephanie Hughes for the new display case at the  
Mahoning County Extension Office  
Check it out when you come to Thursday's Meeting!!**

